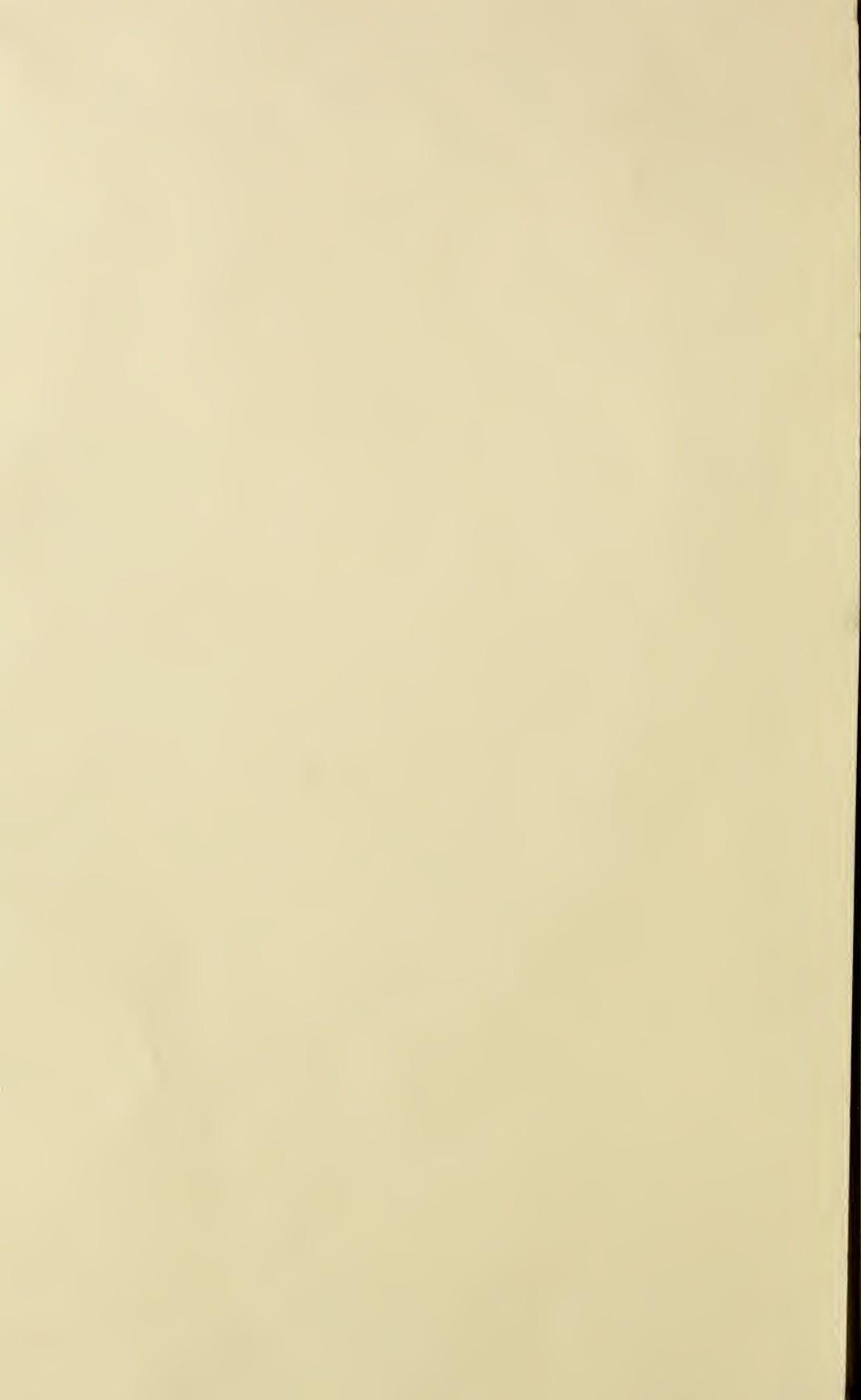


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THE

MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

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Agricultural Calendar.

FARM WORK FOR MARCH.

This beginning month of Spring is sometimes a boisterous and unpropitious one for farm work, but oftener, is the time favorable to pushing forward spring work and allowing the farmer to get in advance of the season which is a great consideration. During the month fencing can be completed, fields cleaned, plaster sown, draining, &c. It is a trying time on all kinds of stock; calves and colts are coming; sows farrowing; horses and work-cattle shedding their coats, and the sudden changes of the weather are unfavorable to all, hence the great necessity to give them extra care and attention.—Keep them from storms and give plenty of water, light and warm beds, and exercise in mild weather. Impose no unnecessary labor upon them and no inconvenience in getting water or food. Be gentle and kind to the young stock particularly.

PLOWING.

Let your plowing be pushed forward when the state of the land permits. Plow deep on well drained soil if you desire fertility, amelioration of droughts, and correspondingly large yield of the various crops. Every thing depends on the proper manner in which the ground be first plowed. We like the method of deep plowing, then manuring, cross-plowing, harrowing, and before the crops are planted, use abundantly fertilizers, lightly harrowed in after the ground is in fine tilth. Do not scratch the land and put in the crop, to be afterwards got in good order. If you pursue this course, it will never be got in proper order to bring a large crop. It can not be done, and is most likely not to be attempted, as other work will be pressing. In some of our rambles and rides in certain portions of the State, we saw pursued in regard to corn, the same system that our fathers forty years ago pursued.—The land was "listed," that is two shallow furrows thrown back to back, these were crossed so that hills were five feet apart each way. The corn

dropt in the cheeks and covered with the hoe. The spaces between were left unplowed to the time when the corn got high enough to bear the mould-board. But it was July before that event occurred; the drought was to be sure some excuse. No manure was used. In one case we were curious to find out in autumn how much the field yielded per acre. On enquiry, the answer was, "not a barrel of poor corn; we were ruined by the drought."—There it is, all the failures, from indolence and ignorance, are set down as the fault of the season.—Not a mile away, on similar soil, and of course laboring under the same climatic influences, the yield per acre was from eight to ten barrels. Why? because in this case, the land had been highly manured, deeply plowed, put in good order, the corn drilled in, the rows four feet apart and the plants thinned so as to stand from 16 to 20 inches apart in the rows. A good superphosphate, or nitrogenized bone dust, applied at the rate of 150 to 200 pounds per acre, then harrowed directly with the Thomas Smoothing Harrow. This was repeated every ten days until the corn got too high for the harrow. After this it got only two workings with the Iron Beam Shovel Plow. Query—if it had been more highly manured would there not have been a much larger yield? Experience and facts answer, yes. Then too, it left the land in good plight for wheat and the production of a large grass crop. Neither of these products would the badly managed field yield. But these examples are every day spread before our farmers and not heeded, for verily "they have eyes but see not."

CORN.

Plant corn at the earliest opportunity, or a portion of the crop at least, but not before the ground has been got in the condition and fertilized as indicated above. This crop can only be made remunerative under the "high pressure" system of improved cultivation.

TOBACCO.

Finish sowing tobacco seed at the earliest mo-

ments. Be sure to keep the tobacco houses well secured against the damaging effects of the high March winds, on this crop. Judicious management is well repaid in the added value of tobacco when it gets to market. Remember it is the prevailing opinion, for many sound reasons, that this great staple will sell high this year. Indeed the little that is now sold brings good prices. Nothing short of ten dollars per hundred average will pay the planter. Yet this can only be done by proper handling of the crop in all its stages of growth and curing, and preparation for market. Under a proper system, it pays better, in this region, than any other extensive product, unless it be peaches and small fruits, such as strawberries, &c.

MEADOWS AND GRASS.

If not already done, destroy the briars, bushes, tussocks, &c. Trim the ditches and see that they carry off the water; look to the underdrains that run freely and top-dress meadows and young grass with barn-yard manure or some fertilizer, if only plaster and salt. Any naked spots there may be, harrow well, sow more seed, enrich with bone meal or fish-scrap compost, and roll.

PLASTER.

This is a cheap, reliable stimulant and aid to the growth of plants, especially on light, well drained lands, therefore use it liberally over the whole farm, manure heaps, and on newly spread manure.

SHEEP.

Wethers and other sheep intended for the market ought to be pushed on in fattening. Fat sheep at this season always are in great demand, as the butchers have the art to make one fat sheep sell four poor ones, at the same price.

If you have young lambs, protect them from stormy weather, and feed the ewes with bran and oats and a plenty of turnips, which you as good farmers ought to have in abundance. Those ewes expected to yean, separate from the flock, and at night put them under shelter, on ground well littered with leaves or short straw, to keep them dry and afford soft beds for the delicate young things when they come. Thousands are lost for the want of care. When the ewes are expected to yean, they ought to be watched during the day, especially after such a severe winter as we have had, when buzzards and crows are starving, for we have seen in our day many ewes and lambs, when in a weak condition, or in the act of parturition, killed by buzzards, first by having their eyes picked out, and then rapidly torn to pieces. Again, ewes heavy in lamb often get on their backs in a small gully or rut and cannot get up, but struggle and die or produce an abortion. Look out too for the

vile dogs. Make war on them as they war upon the helpless sheep, and follow their example, by not stopping until you have killed every one found on your premises showing signs of villainous intent.

OATS.

Sow oats as soon as possible, but it is labor lost unless your land is good, or highly fertilized, and well prepared. Oats respond to high culture, perhaps better than any of the cereals, unless it be corn.

GRASS SEEDS.

Sow clover, 16 lbs. to the acre, or what is better to ensure good pasture, 10 lbs. with one bushel of orchard grass. When sown among the grain crops, harrow, plaster and roll it; will benefit the wheat or rye and secure a good set of grass.

The other cultivated grasses would have been better if sown in the autumn, but sown now early on good land, nicely prepared, will do well. Use plenty of seed of one or two different sorts. Orchard grass, perennial rye grass, do well together, as they ripen about the same time. Herdsgrass and Timothy affiliate. Lucerne should be sown by itself. It requires rich soil and kept free from weeds the first year. After the first year it yields from one to four large crops a year.

BARLEY.

This crop is becoming now valuable on account of its increasing demand for malt liquors, which are made in immense quantities. It is sown like oats in early spring, and requires a good loamy soil or rich sand. It is sown after corn but does better after hoed crops like roots or tobacco, as it requires clean ground, being impatient with the presence of grass or weeds. More attention should be given to its culture. Its straw is much relished by all kinds of stock.

POTATOES.

Plant a few acres of Early Rose as early as possible. The early crops yield most money per acre. Manure heavily, plow deep, get in good tilth and open furrows with a two horse plow, 4 inches deep, and three or three and a half feet apart. Dress the bottom of the furrows with stable manure.—Then drop the half of a medium sized potato ten inches apart, cover lightly with leaves or coarse manure. Sow a little plaster and ashes, or super phosphate over the litter. Cover by a one horse plow, lapping two furrows in ridge shape over the potato row. Nature will regulate their sprouting and when they begin to appear, pass a drag harrow across the rows which levels and loosens the land. In a few days run a light harrow lengthwise the rows; one or two cultivatings and one plowing with some hoe work they will be left to grow and the weeds, if any, will be pulled up by hand.

TREES AND ORCHARDS.

Fruit and ornamental trees and forest trees may be set out before the buds begin to expand. It is not too late to prune grape vines. Orchards may be trimmed. Peach trees shortened and branches thinned, and if required dug about and manured, or limed, at same time the worms about the roots destroyed. But this should have been done last fall.

GARDEN WORK.

GARDEN WORK FOR MARCH.

In the South, garden work has begun in earnest, but in the Middle States not much can be done before the middle of the month, and then only when the land is in order and when the weather is mild, except attending to the hot beds and cold frames so as to push forward the plants they contain. A new hot bed may be made and early cabbage, tomato, pepper and egg plant, seeds sown in drills six inches apart.

A warm and protected border can be made very rich, spaded deep and reduced to the very finest tilth. Sow in drills 4 to 6 inches apart, lettuce, radish, early cabbage, cauliflower, tomato seeds, &c.—Rake lightly and dust the surface with plaster, soot and ashes, in equal parts, then pat the bed with the back of the spade and the work is done that will give strong, healthy plants to set out in May. As they grow, thin them out and keep the bed clear of grass by hand picking. If a cold snap should come, throw over the bed some old mats or cloths, and if very severe put straw over this covering.

Weather permitting the following seeds and work may be performed.

Asparagus Beds, raked off, and some well rotted manure forked in, and a dressing of salt given.—Set out new beds.

Cabbage and Lettuce, set out last fall, may be worked.

Spinach and Kale, may be treated in the same way, and sow more seeds of both for a succession of these nice vegetables.

Cabbage plants, in the hot bed, if large enough, transfer to cold frames, 3 inches apart, and harden them by judicious exposure, to prepare them for planting in open ground next month.

Beets, Carrots and Parsnips.—These ought to be sown as soon as possible for early use.

Salsify.—Sow this, as it grows slowly, and requires all the time you can give it.

Onions.—Sow onion seed, and plant out such as are intended for seed.

Cabbage Stalks, may now be cleaned, righted up

or set in rows, coarse manure or straw placed about them and corn fodder thrown over them, to keep them warm so as to induce the sprouts to shoot early and you will soon have them ready for garnishing jowls and midlings, or for the Easter ham, that king of dishes, at that season of the year.

Peas and Beans.—Plant a few rows of these every ten days. Peas are generally planted too shallow. They should be covered at least 3 or 4 inches deep.

Garlic and Shallots.—Make a small bed for each and set in the bulbs, or sow the seed.

Culinary Herbs, can now be planted around the garden beds, as a pretty edging, or the seeds may be sown thickly to be planted out in July. They will bloom in September or first of October, when they will be fit to cut and dry.

Horse-Radish.—Plant the slips of this useful root in beds. Set them 6 inches apart each way.

Grape Vine Cuttings.—Set out at once.

Raspberries.—Trim, tie up, cut out the old wood, and set out such young shoots as may be wanted to increase the plantation. Two or three strong young shoots are enough to the hill. In planting out, only plant one in a hill, this will soon tiller to many.

Gooseberries and Currants.—Thin these, trim, work about them, mulch or manure if deemed to be necessary. Make new plantations from the cuttings.

Shrubby or all kinds, should now be trimmed, tied up, and transplanted where required.—Rose bushes, if not done before, may be cut close off or pruned severely. Old bushes will be much benefited by being cut down to 6 inches above ground. They will renew themselves rapidly.—Throw a fork full of coarse manure over the stumps.

To CURE CORNS.—Dr. Hall says soft corns are cured by warm water bathings and buckskin protectors, and no parings are necessary. Hard corns on the top of the toes, at the joints, can almost always be removed in two or three days by soaking the feet in warm water for about twenty minutes, night and morning, rubbing the corn with the end of the finger while under the water. This hastens the softening, and in a day or two the kernel can be picked out with the finger nail. If the corn is shaved off the roots deepen; besides troublesome bleedings sometimes follow, and in several cases have ended fatally. A bit of cotton saturated with oil and bound upon the corn over night, facilitates the softening. The hurting of hard corns before falling weather is removed by soaking them in warm water.

Water from stagnant pools for the cow, is as baneful on milk secretions, as the bordel is on moral culture,

For the Maryland Farmer.

FARMING WITHOUT MANURE.

In your February number, a correspondent alludes to the experience of Mr. Prout, a celebrated English farmer, who, it is stated, has for thirteen successive years "cultivated his fields, taking off every year, of either wheat, oats, grass, or roots, without applying any kind of manure or fertilizer, obtaining full and profitable crops, and without exhausting or deteriorating his lands," &c.

This erroneous statement has lately been published in several agricultural papers, and has doubtless elicited many comments on account of its great inconsistency with the fundamental principles of agriculture. The mistake has arisen from the fact that Mr. Prout uses no *stable* manure—placing his reliance entirely upon bone dust and super phosphates, which he uses liberally, and which have greatly contributed to his recognized success in raising profitable crops. A private letter from J. R. Dodge, Esq., the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, alludes to Mr. Prout's farming operations as follows: "Last season I visited the farm of Mr. Prout, at Sawbridgeworth, Essex, saw his more than three hundred acres of growing wheat, and the piles of super phosphate and ground bone, that are annually applied to the soil, and took abstracts from his statistics from his record of the farm, which corroborated the statements from his own lips, that his average annual expense for fertilizers, was fifty shillings, or \$12.50 per acre, for four or five previous years. It is true that he does not use manure of cattle to any great extent, as he keeps none for fattening, but has a few horses and pairs of oxen for hauling, and all light cultivating not done by steam. He plows eight or nine inches in depth, stirs the soil six or seven inches deeper, cultivates his crop once or twice in the spring, by horse plowing, and afterwards weeds by hand.

"The reported gross income of the present year, \$23,141, is about the average shown by his books, for the four previous years, and while the annual cost of fertilizers is about \$5,000, the net profit averages \$6,000, after allowing eight per cent. on \$50 per acre in lieu of rent.

"The wheat crop is always disposed of by auction, grain and straw, as it stands in the field.—This practice, disregarding turnip culture and cattle feeding, is, indeed, anomalous in England, but Mr. Prout is willing to continue it while it brings annually thirty-five to sixty-five bushels of wheat per acre, and a net profit of \$12 to \$15."

From the above testimony, it would seem that Mr. Prout's success is due to a strict apprehension

of those two grand fundamental factors of fertility—thorough tillage and liberal manuring. That both are absolutely necessary to prosperity in farming, is an axiom as plain as truth can be stated. The idea that crops may be grown year in and year out, without restoring the matter which has been drawn from the soil, is too puerile for a moment's attention. Thousands of acres of worn out lands in all our older States afford lamentable evidence of this thriftless system of farming; and the oft told tale of diminished production, points with unerring accuracy to the real cause of the trouble—viz: *exhaustion of those proximate mineral ingredients which are needed by crops!* Is it possible that in this period of progress farmers need to be reminded that the age of miracles has passed away? Is it within the range of probabilities that something can be created out of nothing? Let the agricultural experience of every civilized nation answer these questions! The patient, plodding Hollander shows his faith in progressive agriculture, by stirring his land in the most thorough manner, and by using every available refuse substance which experience has shown to be fitted for food for plants. The no less industrious Belgian compels his land to produce its highest yield, by the untiring industry with which he tills his limited acres, and the constant manuring which he applies. In France, England and Germany, the same course is followed, and the same results are attained, viz: crops which should put to the blush the meagre results of our more favored clime, and which certainly demonstrate in practice what theory has taught, that liberal manuring is the very sheet anchor of successful farming. Even the "Heathen Chinee" gathers up the ordure of the millions of beings in his teeming country, taught by experience that by such thrift alone, can the soil be made to produce enough to feed the vast throng dependent upon it for subsistence.

Is not the experience of our newer States and Territories enough to prove the necessity of manures, and the fallacy of attempting to establish a permanently successful agriculture without them? Do the soils of the famed prairie States yield the same bounteous crops, which rewarded the husbandman when first he settled upon them? Stubborn facts and figures, which cannot lie, answer these questions with but one intent! Science and practical experience both indicate the true solution of the problem! Thorough tillage and liberal manuring are the two grand topics which should ever occupy the thoughts of farmers, and which should demand their most careful and earnest attention. Our agricultural journals abound in assertions that a mere mechanical stirring of the soil,

will perpetually maintain fertility. Are they not, by the dissemination of such erroneous doctrines, really sapping the foundation of the important industry which they claim to advocate? From the days of Jethro Tull, to the present time, these "blind leaders of the blind," have wielded too much influence—an influence which has found expression in many an impoverished field, and in thousands of acres, which, once fertile and prolific of abundant crops, now yield scarcely enough to warrant the pretense of gathering a harvest.

A comparison of the average product of American and European farms, reveals a striking balance against us. It is useless to conceal the fact, that this discrepancy is due solely to the thorough manner in which trans-Atlantic farmers manure their land, and to the stinted doses of fertilizers which are doled out here. It is time that this difference were fully understood. It has been indicated, both by science and practical experience. The exhaustive experiments of Liebig, Way, Voelcker, Laws and Gilbert, Ville, and many others, have proved beyond contradiction that crops cannot be profitably grown without the aid of fertilizers; and that the more rational manner, in which these necessary expedients are used, the more prosperous will our farmers become. No more important question ever engaged the attention of the people, than that which tends to the solution of the problem of successful agriculture; and the corner stone of this fabric—so vitally necessary to the existence of a prosperous community—is liberal and judicious manuring.

CINCINNATUS.

Baltimore, February 15th, 1875.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.

To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer:

I notice an article in the February number of the *Farmer*, signed "Chester County, Pa.," on Hungarian Grass and its effects on stock, &c.—Permit me to add my testimony, as to the great value of Hungarian Grass, as practiced by myself and tenants, when in the farming business. He says, "sow broad cast, one bushel to the acre;" this in my humble opinion is not enough, as the grass will be too coarse for either good pasturing or hay. I have had it sown, and have used it, as I am doing at this time, for the last twelve or fourteen years, and have never sowed less than two bushels to the acre. Cut when in blossom, otherwise it becomes rank and more like straw; but cut and properly cured, I prefer it for all kinds of farm stock. I have used it the entire winter through, in large and small quantities, with the

best results, and never found any bad effects; presume when bad effects arise, it occurs from not cutting the grass before the seed matures. I had a field of twenty acres in this grass for seven successive years, and used it both for mowing and pasturing, to my entire satisfaction, although I would say here, I do not think this advisable, as the ground becomes too solid; after this I broke it up in the fall, and put in corn the following spring, and made ten barrels of good corn to the acre, without any fertilizer or manure, except (forty bushels of lime to the acre) as a top-dressing, applied two years before on the grass, showing that the grass is not hard on the land. I would advise every farmer to put down a few acres of this grass for early and late pasturing, as it amply pays them in the end—low land is the best—don't sow too early; wait until the ground becomes warm in the spring—my experience is, not before the first of May. I have some of the best sets in oats after it is sown and up a little, then roll.

When a mixed grass is desirable, sow the Hungarian with clover, one bushel to the acre, and four quarts of clover. Very respectfully,

R. N. PENNINGTON.

Emory Grove, Md.

The future communication promised by our correspondent will be thankfully received.

Plaster on Manure Piles.

No farmer who pays any attention to the collection of home-made manure—and what farmer deserves the name who does not attend to this important matter?—should be without a barrel or two of ground land-plaster to sprinkle over his manure heaps from time to time, to prevent the evaporation of their ammonia. The cost of plaster is very trifling, and is compensated five fold by preventing the waste of manures from evaporation. A very tidy but improvident friend of ours, who kept a large number of fowls of all sorts and paid considerable attention to their cleanliness, had his fowl house thoroughly swept every week, and in short time collected a large pile of most valuable manure. By leaving it exposed to the sun, wind and rain it became practically worthless, having lost nearly all its ammonia. Had he sprinkled it with land-plaster, at a cost of a few cents, he could have fixed the ammonia and preserved its value. The same is true of all nitrogenous manure. It loses heavily by exposure unless plaster be used to stay the waste.

It is bad farming to leave manure uncovered.—It should be kept under shelter where the wind and rain cannot injure it, and even there plaster should be used; but where it is uncovered, plaster is essential to preserve it.—*Phillip's Southern Farmer.*

For the "Maryland Farmer."

UNDERDRAINING WITH SHELLS.

Some months since we contributed to this Journal, an article on this subject, in which we recommended the use of gravel as draining material, instead of stones or tiles.

We have been much gratified by seeing how generally said article, and the system of draining therein recommended, have been appreciated by journalists, who have reproduced it, and by some of the most intelligent and practical men of the country, who have written us in the most complimentary language, expressing their very high appreciation of this original, economical and excellent system of drain construction.

For the benefit of a numerous class of our readers, who desire to underdrain, who have neither the stones nor the gravel convenient, nor the means with which to purchase tiles, or to manufacture them, but have exhaustless beds of oyster shells, as many plantations on the shore of the Atlantic, and on those of its bays and estuaries have, we would inform them that the shells are well adapted to drain construction, and they are superior to stones or tiles, and under many circumstances, fully equal to the gravel.

There are often contiguous to those immense beds of shells, large areas of marsh requiring drainage.

In many instances these fertile undrained marshes belong to plantations which have mainly been exhausted by long, indiscreet and improvident culture and cropping, and one acre of the reclaimed marsh would be worth more than ten of the exhausted old fields, to which we have alluded.

Often a large portion of said marshes are above tide influence, hence will need no diking; but here are cases when cutting at low tide into the tide-flooded marsh, open ditches, sufficient to discharge the underdrains into them, under circumstances that will prevent the mud in the open drains from setting back into and obstructing the mouths of the underdrains, the area of the drainable marsh may often be immensely augmented. By draining these marshes, an area may often be added to the old and exhausted portion of the plantation, that will be of almost exhaustless fertility, and capable of producing nearly every description of crop, and many fold greater than can be obtained from the old fields, with the use of any amount of any variety of fertilizer obtainable at any cost.

This, however, is a character of farm improvement, or reclamation, that if attempted by the novice, without calling to his aid the Draining

Engineer, will be very likely to cost much more than it need.

It is a branch of high farming, (though on low land), that demands skill in its prosecution, that can never be acquired without experience. The fall in the area to be drained, while it may be ample, if all is availed of, is often so slight that a well adjusted Transit, in skilled hands, is indispensable in locating the drains, and if attempted without such instrument, and experience in the use of it, the labor and expense incurred will be lost; hence, it is the height of folly, for the planter to attempt such reclamation, without calling to his aid a competent engineer.

We are fully aware that the majority of old school planters will denounce what we have recommended in the way of obtaining assistance to lay out drains, and they will claim that it savours too much of "book farming" to meet their views; but we know that there is a small minority of those possessing such lands, and the material recommended with which to drain them, who will appreciate what we have recommended, and will adopt it.

And even if it requires to sell a portion of the old exhausted upland, at a nominal price, to raise the means wherewith to improve, and bring into cropping order a much less area than is sold, of land that will only require drainage and tillage for many years to produce full and remunerative crops, the sale and the expenditure recommended, will show a balance on the right side in the end. We have made draining an important branch of our profession for years, and have had a favorable opportunity to observe the result of attempts at drainage by farmers, without professional assistance, and we are safe in saying that fully 75 per cent. of the money and labor thus expended is literally wasted.

No branch of high farming known to us, has given so large a return for outlay, where it has been judiciously made, as *underdraining*. We could cite hundreds of examples, and in every State to which we have been professionally called, where the success of the farmer is acknowledged to have had its foundation in the remunerative production of drained lands.

The circumstances under which draining is to be performed, are so varied that it is impossible to give a rule or system of general application.

In Europe, where draining was in use more than a century, before it was introduced here, and where agricultural production has been quadrupled by it, in numerous instances, the most intelligent farmers would, no sooner think of attempting to be their own Draining Engineer, than they would of being their own family physician.

They have learned that all men are not born engineers and architects, as many in this country evidently seem to think.

JOHN WILKINSON.

For the Maryland Farmer.

GRAPE CULTURE.

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

My article in the January number of the *Maryland Farmer*, on grape culture, has caused quite a list of inquiries, several by letter and others personally, prominent amongst which is a list of inquiries from Dr. John A. Craig, of Baltimore Co., Md. As his list of inquiries covers most of the ground, I will give them here, somewhat abridged or condensed, and then prepare to answer them.—As it would take so large an amount of space to answer all the questions themselves, and others which naturally might grow out of them, going into minute particulars, I will, necessarily, have to be as concise as possible holding myself in readiness to answer any point on which I have not commented.

1. Which is the best, Fall or Spring planting, and in what respects?

2. What are the best distances apart, and why do writers on grape culture generally give from 5 to 6 or from 6 to 8 feet apart as the proper distance apart to plant vines?

3. How can I remedy the bad effects of over-cropping young vines?

4. How many years have you been growing vines and which do you consider your best varieties, first, second and third choice?

5. What kind of manure is best for a vineyard; how, when and where should it be applied?

6. What are the best implements to work a vineyard with; when and how often should the vineyard be worked?

7. Is trenching necessary to eminent success in growing grapes for market?

8. What is your opinion in regards to the merits of the Delaware, Rogers No. 1, Goethe, Norton's Va., Ives's seedling, Martha and Alvey grapes?

9. Have you had any experience in wine making, and have you ever tried aerating wines? Please give me your experience in wine making.

10. Please give me any other items of experience you may think will prove of value to me.

I have here presented the different questions, in brief, which have been asked me, and would be glad to hear from other vineyardists, the columns of the *Maryland Farmer* being at all times open to items or records of experience.

FALL OR SPRING PLANTING-

comes first on the list of queries; and, as we have tried both, I can readily give the result. It depends on circumstances whether spring or fall planting is the best. If the spring opens nicely and the vines can be set out before they commence to bud much, then I like spring planting best; but,

if there be very much spring work to do, and the soil and situation is such as to prevent the ground being put in good order early, then by all means prepare the soil properly and plant in the fall, for then the vines can get an early start and make a fine growth the first year. There is generally so much work to do in the spring that the vines are left until the last thing to be planted, and when such is the case, plant in the fall. Every year we put out a lot of vines, sometimes doing so in the spring and othertimes in the fall. We have about eight or nine acres now in vines, most of them in bearing condition. Almost every year we set out several thousand strawberry plants, always doing it in the spring; and when such is the case, we plant our vines usually in the fall. I like early spring planting much better than fall planting.

THE BEST DISTANCES APART

for vines to be in the rows and how far apart the rows should be is governed by the kind of plantation you wish to set out. If you plant but few vines, for home use only, then from five to six feet, or from six to eight feet is far enough apart, economy of space being the object, what little manure being used being readily taken there in a wheelbarrow. In planting out a market plantation of vines, it will not do to plant so closely together, or else a wheelbarrow will have to be used to cart on the manure, making it both expensive and laborious, especially if the vineyard be some distance from the barnyard or stables. If this be not done, a narrow wagon or cart must be made to accommodate itself to the confined limits of the rows.—We have ours, some of them eight feet by ten, making the rows the wide way; and then between each row we put a row of strawberries, so as to utilize what would otherwise be lost space. This also pays well for good cultivation of both grape vines and strawberries. After the fourth year for the grape vines, we clean out the strawberries entirely and let the vines have entire possession of the ground. Vines set thus far apart permit a wagon to enter nicely. We use two horses to the wagon, so they can "straddle" the rows of strawberries.—When the strawberries are cleaned out, a cart can be used just as readily. It is very difficult indeed

TO REMEDY THE EFFECTS OF OVER-CROPPING young vines; and it is more difficult with young vines than with older ones, as they are not so strong or well established as older ones. We, too, have suffered in the same way, and resorted to many ways to overcome the evil. We have learned by experience that a preventive is far preferable to a cure. I know it seems like a waste to thin out both wood and fruit to prevent over-cropping and the consequent injury to the vines, but it must be

done to secure fine, large fruit, and freedom from injury to the young vines. We have about established it as a rule to let but two bunches remain on each upright cane growing from the arm to mature, sometimes thinning out to but one bunch. This gives us good bunches, large sized berries, which command paying prices and ready sale.— Nearly or quite the same weight of fruit is obtained by doing this, while the net receipts are larger than by permitting all to ripen up. The vines, then, do not suffer, but look thrifty and ripen a larger amount of wood yearly.

To overcome the bad effects of over-cropping, cut back rather severely, manure well, and cultivate thoroughly the entire season. It will take a couple of seasons for the vines to recover their natural vigor, if they have been badly over-cropped, otherwise one season may suffice. And right here it would be best, perhaps, to say

WHICH KIND OF MANURE IS BEST.

If the resources be such as to cause the vineyardist to purchase and use commercial fertilizers, then the best one to use, in our experience, is *pure* ground bone. The effects are not immediate, but they are excellent and lasting. Hot, unfermented stable or barnyard manure, applied in large quantities injures the vines, and often forces an undue amount of wood, more than the vine can properly ripen before cold weather, or else causes young vines to overbear. Overfed vines are as unprofitable as underfed ones, and more so when we take into consideration the cost of the manure, which, if judiciously applied to some other crop, would bring in a good return.

If barn-yard or stable manure be used, see that it is well rotted before it be put on the vineyard.— If the vines be young, and the quantity of manure is but moderate, throw the soil from around the vines with a one-horse plow, spread a good dose of the manure along the row, and then cover it up. And this is a good way to commence the cultivation in the spring. Plow away from the vines, put on the manure and then cover it up, after which plow towards both rows of vines, using a one horse plow, making the *clear-up* furrow just between the rows. Then smooth down with a harrow. If strawberries are grown between the rows, the cultivation is necessarily different.

We make an excellent manure for the vineyard by composting a refuse matter obtained from the glue factories, and mixing or composting this with muck obtained from our shore, in the proportion of one wagon load of the former to two or three of the latter. The glue factory waste is composed of hair, lime and gelatine. The muck is also excel-

lent to use as an ingredient with stable manure, half and half. We annually use several hundred loads of muck, though the season being so severe this year we have not done so.

In my next communication I will answer most if not all of the rest of the questions, and trust the above answers may prove interesting and valuable.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Real Estate on the Potomac.

During the last month or two real estate transactions, on the Potomac, have been rather lively—in this respect all is not "quiet on the Potomac."

A short time before the holidays, W. W. Wright, Esq., a gentleman from N. Y., of culture and wealth, bought a fine farm of about 600 acres, for \$15,000, at Gunston, in Virginia, half a dozen miles below Mount Vernon, adjoining the notable farm of Col. E Daniels, where, in the spring, he will put up fine buildings and introduce improved stock, in horses, cattle and sheep, with other improvements.

Since then, Judge J. M. Edmunds has bought a farm of about 270 acres, for which he payed \$5,000, upon which he will soon put fine buildings and good stock.

Still later, W. H. Chase, Esq., has bought a small farm of Col. Daniels, at \$50 per acre, on which he has commenced to make fine improvements.

These are all handsome locations and good quality of lands. Much of the lands in this section, however, have been worn and "run down."

But they can be easily recuperated and rendered highly productive by underdraining, deep plowing, and liberal growing and plowing-in of clover.— The deep plowing will break up the hard-pan caused by the successive shallow plowing of four or five inches for so many years, and allow moisture to rise from below in time of a drought, while the clover will add humus and organic matter to the soil, making it fertile.

D. S. C.

IN-BREEDING OF SWINE.—At a recent meeting of the Mass. State Board of Agriculture, Mr. Cheever gave the experience of Mr. Levi T. Ballou, of Cumberland, R. I., in breeding from two Suffolk pigs down through a period of ten years, raising about 1,100 pigs, and crossing close relations in every conceivable manner, brother to sister, father to daughter, mother to son, uncle to niece, to cousin cousin, and so on, and without having, during the whole time, a single deformed or imperfect pig.

PROVISION AGAINST DROUTH.

Drouths are getting to be the rule; there is hardly a season without them. We cannot foretell when they will occur. For the past few years we have had drouth early in the season, and now in the fall, though usually in midsummer. Though there is hardly a year that we are not afflicted in this way; yet we seem to be careless about it, expecting, hoping for a good season. We decide on running our chances, and so do not provide as we should against their occurrence.

But can we successfully provide in this way, not only to take advantage of the drouth, but without incurring expenses that will lessen the profit? This is a nice point, and if practicable, is of importance, for the loss by drouth, as the seasons run, is one of many millions yearly in our State alone, and it is even worse in other States, particularly in the West. The thing can be done, and is done, and in various ways. Irrigation is one. But we will waive that and go to the common means which are in the reach of every one. Luckily they occur in the ordinary course of farming, having their basis in the general improvement of the land.

A moderate drouth is not seriously hurtful to grain; indeed, where the land is rich it is a benefit, as an excess of straw and lodging will be prevented. I have known some of the best crops so grown. So with corn, and I may say with most of the hoed crops. Deep cultivation and stirring the soil will always insure a good crop in a moderate drouth, if the land is not poor. Where there is deep cultivation, deep wealth of soil and thorough drainage, as in our best river bottoms, and the cultivation is what it should be, and the ground is constantly stirred till growth forbids, almost any drouth can be defied; in the worst cases a fair crop is realized. But the soil in such case must be deeply rich and deeply porous. The subsoil plow will aid largely here. The same soil and treatment are also required for grain in a drouth.

Are we then to provide, as a rule, against drouth? Is our land for grain and hoed crops always to be prepared in this way? This is simply improving land, taking the chances with the drouth. And is this requiring too much? The drouth is met, which is almost always of yearly occurrence. If there should be little or no drouth, the hoed crops will flourish all the better, but the grain will be apt to suffer, and it is the only item of objection. But it is well known that harm from lodged grain, or overgrowth, is of less occurrence than lack of growth, as in the case of poor soil. Better run the risk of some lodged grain than the all but total

failure of a crop on poor land in a drouth. To the general farmer, then, his security against the drouth is in the condition of his soil. His only hope is, aside from irrigation, in a deep, rich, porous soil, kept well stirred. There is nothing new about this—it is only what the best farmers do more or less.

But we have yet the most important point to consider—the dairy, or grazing. Here we find new relations to the drouth. Grass land cannot be cultivated like that of hoed crops, and must be left to run its chance; yet much can be done by a preparation of the soil and the establishment of the crop. Land prepared as for grain or hoed crops will answer exactly the purpose of forage growth, clover especially; so also for corn; and the grasses will flourish on such land. There will not only be the growth, but the close set—a necessity in a drouth, shading the ground as it does. This close set is secured by thick sowing on an even, well-pulverized surface, and the seed covered to ensure it against drouth at the time or immediately after. The time of sowing is to be early in the fall or spring—in the spring it is better, as it gets the winter moisture to start it. Late sowing is always risky. Your crop started, the good, forcing soil, aided by top fertilizers, will soon establish it so that it will protect itself against the sun and the drying winds, and, if clover, push on to at least a fair crop in a pretty severe drouth. It is the richness and good condition of the soil that are required to start a crop in a dry time, and a close set in addition to continue the crop. When straggling, the plant will find it difficult to survive a hot, dry period, however strong the ground.

Yet, notwithstanding all this precaution, a severe drouth will tell. There will be less feed; the allotted pasture will in general not be sufficient; and when the feed once gets short a double evil will result. There will be a shrinkage in milk and flesh of the cows, and the roots of the herbage will be exposed to the sun and the drying air, which will make short work of pasture, almost ruin it; and unless other remedy is provided, the animal will equally suffer. This is the effect on good land well prepared and the crop well established. It is the great evil, in a drouth, to expose the roots of vegetation. To aggravate the evil, it occurs at a time when the feed is most needed. But to save the grass it must not be fed off too close. Hence the dressing, the absolute necessity of resorting to other feed, which experience has proved can easily be furnished. In an early drouth the winter moisture on good land will give you a fair growth of rye. Clover may follow for later difficulty; and that in connection with corn,

finishes out the season. These crops can be made to grow well in a drouth. As it does not require a great area, the cultivation can the better be attended to. The advantage in furnishing feed in this way is two-fold—it secures fresh and full rations when the crop of grass is short, and it realizes more from the land. This is strikingly seen where part of the land allotted to pasture is given to raising these crops for soiling. And this often is the better way. By this means the land intended for pasture can be made self-supporting. Sometimes it is found convenient to devote a small lot in pasture to this purpose. Or a large field may be fenced off, say the poorest part, for grass, and manure and cultivation given it. This is a step towards soiling, and would eventually lead to it. It is getting more from the land, and that is an offset to the labor required to produce it, so that the provisions against drouth, while they meet the remedy, do not increase the expense over the corresponding profit.—F. G. in *Country Gentleman*.

For the Maryland Farmer.

DOES STEAMING PAY?

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

To such a question we can answer both yes and no. Yes, under proper circumstances and conditions, and no, under unfavorable ones. Farmer A attempts to make it pay to do so with but two or three cows and a few pigs, paying a good round sum for a suitable steamer, and then engages a man to do the cooking and tending to the stock. A year, at the farthest, convinces farmer A. that it does not pay, and even after he takes especial pains to denounce it in toto. Now, farmer B. tries the experiment of steaming food for his stock. He purchases a first class steamer, puts it up properly and where there is the least danger from setting fire to the buildings, and goes to work feeding steamed food. He has from ten to twenty cows and quite a large herd of swine, besides young stock, and hires a man to attend to the steaming of the food and feeding the stock, finding, from the commencement, that it pays him well.

Correspondingly, it does not cost more to attend to twenty cows, steaming the food for them, than it does to attend to three or four, for it will nearly take the time of one person, and if you cannot find enough to keep him busy you will lose very much. I would not like to induce any one with but few animals to purchase a steamer and hire a man to attend to it, for the expense would far out balance the saving in amount of food. The greatest economy is when done on a large scale. I cannot tell the exact point where it ceases to become desirable,

but I would not undertake it, under ordinary circumstances, with less than ten cows and quite a little herd of swine. The extra labor requisite to thoroughly cook the food often costs more than is gained by the saving in the quantity of the food given.

One great cause of complaint in regard to cooking food for stock is not purchasing economical tho' efficient apparatus. Some breeders use one kind and some another. A large thorough bred stock breeder, with whom I am well acquainted, and whose herd numbers some 75 or 80 head in splendid condition, has his feed cut, part clover hay and part corn fodder, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the former to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the latter; on this he puts 3 quarts of bran and 1 quart of yellow corn meal to every $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of cut feed. When this is nicely mixed, boiling hot water is poured on, enough to thoroughly moisten the mixture, when the lid of the mixing box is put down tight and left down for from a half hour to three quarters of an hour, until the mass becomes mellow, and the fibre of the fodder and hay softened. The water is heated in large boilers imbedded in masonry, with a suitable place for fire left under back boiler. In these same boilers corn meal, middlings, potatoes, &c., are boiled for the swine, of which this gentleman has some forty or fifty head at different times, sometimes going over that number. He does not question whether it pays or not; but, by continuing the practice, year after years, he shows by deeds that he believes it pays.

The manure from animals fed on cooked or steamed food is not so valuable as from animals fed on whole or ground grain in the raw state. This goes to show that the animals assimilate more of the food when cooked than when raw, and as it rarely pays to manure with that which should be converted into beef and milk, I consider it pays to put the food in such a condition before feeding it that the animals can make the most flesh and milk from a given quantity of food. It does not pay to make manure out of grain, no matter how rich or stimulating it may be to the different crops.

The great danger from fire prevents many from experimenting with cooked food; for fires, and serious ones, too, have occurred on places where the different kinds of patent steamers were used. No doubt most of them can be attributed to carelessness; but the mere fact that they have occurred deters many from taking the chances to suffering in a like manure. Ignorance and carelessness no doubt are the major causes for the fires, but the supposed dangerous character of the steamers under ordinary care prejudices farmers very often, in regards to their being economical and safe machines to use.

HORTICULTURE.

THE LIMA BEAN.

Our hot summers are unfavorable to many vegetables which Europeans value, but then we have much to be thankful for that is denied to them. Among these favors is the Lima Bean. Europe, at least that part of it which is famous for good vegetables, is not hot enough for it. It is a very fastidious thing even here, and many fail with it in their early sowings. The earth has to be dry and warm, or the seeds rot away. It is not, however, always the fault of the earth that the seeds rot. They are often defective from having been left in the frost in the fall before gathering. If the seeds are not quite ripe before the frost arrives, they are not in a good condition of perfect healthfulness. In this condition, they are more liable to injury from the damp colds of spring. Instead of saving the last refuse of the crop for seed, a few of the earlier ones should be left on. It is a great temptation, certainly, to take and eat the earliest perfecting beans, but those who succeed best in all things, are those who learn to resist such temptation.s

In raising beans it is almost indispensable to have poles. Indeed the writer has never seen them grow any other way. Some writers say that they do very well when planted as bush beans, and then keep the runners continually cut off as they grow. This will require much labor, and it will therefore, be best to have poles, if at all possible to procure, which in the regions reached by our readers it generally is. The poles have to be set in the ground, about four feet apart, as the first part of the operation of bean planting, and then the earth drawn up around the base of the pole to a small hill. This hill soon becomes warm and dry, much sooner than the surrounding flat ground, and we can then sow the beans much earlier. It is usual to put about three or four beans in a hill, the root grows downward, and only deep enough to barely cover the bean. There are few vegetables so satisfactory to grow in an American garden as the Lima bean. It is little trouble to get ready for the sowing, and when once they come into use, they continue with no trouble, but the gathering and easy shelling, unto frost.

One oz. Asparagus seed will produce about 500 plants.

NEW AND OLD ROSES.

Of late years there have been a fearful revival among the rose improvers. If we take the catalogues, and compare them with those of twenty or even ten years ago, we hardly know we are reading a rose list, unless we look at the top and see what we are reading about—and yet it is hard to improve the rose. The writer has seen during the past year or so, some of these so-called new roses, and really believes that many of them are not only no advance on old kinds, but, in many cases, not materially different from them. If one is about to lay in a collection of roses, the old popular kinds will, for the most part, give entire satisfaction. In the class of climbing roses, there is nothing more likely to please than the Prairie Roses, which had their first improvement made here in our own city. They flower but once a year, it is true, but they are so gorgeous when they are in bloom, so hardy, and grow so rapidly, that they can hardly be done without. There are no ever-blooming roses hardy enough to give entire satisfaction. Very hardy ever-blooming roses are not common in any class. The Hybrid Perpetuals are hardy, though they are pre-eminently the roses of June; they have very few flowers in any other month, and besides are somewhat straggling growers. A good list is the old Monthly Cabbage, Jules Margottin, Auguste Mie, Caroline de Sansal, Geant des Battailles, General Jacqueminot, and say Pius Ninth. The ever-blooming roses truly are the Teas, Chinas, Bourbons and Noisettes; of these may be named likely to give entire satisfaction, are Hermosa, Louis Phillippe, Cels, Madam Falcot, Souvenir de Malmaison, Archduke Charles, Saffrano, Bon Silene, or as people used to say in olden time, Bon Celine, Paul Joseph, and Madame Bosanquet. The Noisette roses is a class which first made its appearance at Charleston, South Carolina. Its peculiarity is to flower freely in the fall. They are mostly strong growers, and are well adapted to seed culture. Gloire de Dagon, América, and Marechal Neil, are well known as superior ones in this class, and the old Musk Cluster, sometimes known as Superba, is very desirable; for, though the flowers individually are small, the clusters are often immense. Lamarque is also a very popular white Noisette Rose.

One oz. Pumpkin, or Squash Seed is sufficient for 40 to 80 hills.

QUINCE CULTURE.

Those who can grow quinces well, find them one of the most profitable of all fruit crops. Unfortunately those who can grow them well, seem to be the very great exception the general rule. The agricultural newspapers, have for several years past told us of one great fruit grower, near Dayton, Ohio, who grows pears, apples, cherries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, and other things, to an immense extent, but none of them are so profitable as his orchard of quinces. How he grows them is given with these accounts, but it is the rule with most fruits that that system of culture for fruit trees, that would be a success in any of the Western States, would be no use at all in the districts reached by our pen. Every district of country has to find out for itself the best system of culture. In the management of the quince, there are three things to contend with. It is liable to the attacks of the quince borer, which enters the stem near the ground, and unless kept out, it is no use to try to raise quinces. Then the knot is very troublesome at times; and again at times a species of red rust injures the leaves, when the whole plant soon becomes stunted, and grows slow. Good, rich soil, and a sheltered place, seems to be favorable to the quince; but one can scarcely tell in advance what is a good quince soil. It would be well for all who have fruit farms, to try a few quince plants; and having found out for certain that they will do well, more can be set out to any extent, and to the great profit of the owner.

THE EVERGREEN IVY.

One of our northern exchanges has had a good word to say lately, in behalf of the Evergreen or English Ivy. It is well worthy of the attention of our readers, as it is much more adapted to our climate than to theirs. In the older places in Maryland and Virginia, it is often seen and always admired. It seems to like best to grow under the shade of large trees, or on walls not too fully exposed to the sun. It attaches itself to anything it wants to cover, without any nailing or any fastening of any kind. Our modern places seem to have gotten out of the way of using it, which is much to be regretted. Perhaps this is because it is so easy to grow. People very often despise that which may be had for the asking. This might be all right if they succeed with more difficult things, but generally, they do not. There are thousands of bare walls, and old trees and fences, besides naked places under large trees, for which nothing is done to cover the unsightliness, and which might as well be given over to a few ivy plants as not.

THE SMOKE TREE.

This is sometimes called the Mist tree, or the Green Fringe tree, and is a very popular plant in ornamental grounds. It is a sort of a poisoned vine—that is of that family—but is entirely free from the nocuous properties of some of the family. It is a native of Europe, but quite hardy in our climate. It is valued for its hairy flower stalks, which remain on the plant after the inconspicuous green flowers have fallen, giving the plant the appearance of being enveloped in mist, whence its name. There appears, however, to be a difference in their mist bearing capacity, for a friend in Talbot County, last summer, showed us a plant nearly twenty feet high, which never has anything more than the poorest pretence of mist. This is said to result from having seedling trees; those which are the most decidedly misty being propagated from layers, or, perhaps, cuttings. In this way, a good variety is preserved, as we preserve varieties of fruits by grafting or similar measures. There seems to be also, a great variety in the tint of the mist. Some trees are green, and others of a rosy purple, but so far as can be gathered from nurserymen's catalogues, no effort has been made to keep these varieties distinct. Independently of its curious appearance when covered with this fog-like production, the leaves are interesting, and the whole plant is of a character to make it valued as an ornamental bush.

A NUMEROUS PROGENY.

It is said that a single pair of rats, if no trouble happened to them, would increase to a million in three years. But this is no more than we see in the vegetable kingdom. From a single pair of potatoes, with every chance given for perfect and profuse reproduction, have been known to yield enormously. But the most remarkable increase we find in the sweet potato. It is recorded in the *Rural Carolinian*, for February, as follows:

In 1871, having a specimen which he desired to multiply to the largest possible extent, he first cut it into pieces, each with about two inches square of skin. These he planted February 10th, in a rich, warm spot, which had been occupied as a hog pen. They grew finely, and on May 18th, he took from them two hundred and two vine cuttings, which he planted, and he continued this cutting and planting till August 10th, planting in all something over ten thousand cuttings. The crop was not measured, but experienced farmers, who saw the whole in heaps, as put up for banking, estimated that there was at least *one hundred bushels*. That will do for poor sandy, barren Florida!

PEA CULTURE.

In the garden culture of the pea, the question of getting stakes to run on, is often one of moment. It is not always convenient to find them. The result is that people try to find some kinds that do not desire sticks, or else they grow the taller kinds, and allow them to grow anyhow as they will.

It is far best to follow the last named course. The so-called dwarf peas, do not stand up and bear as a bush would do, but trail as much as the others, and it is therefore, if they are to trail, to have kinds that trail and produce well, as to have kinds which trail and bear nothing to boast of. Of course in extensive field culture, it is impossible to have sticks for the plants to run on, and even though we could in field culture where horse labor has to be used, it will not work; we have to sacrifice some little good to greater convenience. But in garden culture, it is another thing. The pea does so much better when grown on stakes, that it is always worth while to take some trouble to get them. The same plants which will yield a fair crop when trailing on the ground, will give double the quantity when growing on sticks; and those who have a cultivated taste, say that peas grown on sticks are better in quality than those grown on the ground. At this season of the year, it often happens that small twiggy bush can be had that would do well for the purpose, if people would only think to save them for the purpose. Prunings of trees, or other material will do very well. Tied into neat bundles, they are not unsightly to keep.

AMERICAN CAMELLIAS.

It is pleasant to note that among the March premiums offered by our Horticultural Society, one has been offered for seedling camellias. There was a time when American Camellias were as popular in America, as the best foreign ones; and every one acquainted with American gardening, knows how hard it is to make anything go in our country unless it has first an European name. In the good old days referred to, Baltimore stood pre-eminent as a great camellia centre, and, to this day, many of the Baltimore seedlings are amongst the most valued in collections. Indeed some of these stand high in the best European collections. There is no reason why our high prestige as a community famous for camellia raising may not be regained. Camellia culture is still popular over the land. True, the taste for mere bouquet flowers, as made the old double white and some others get so much

in demand, as to seem to limit the demand for good and improved kinds, with good petals, good colors, and superior marks generally. But it is probable this increase of the taste for mere bouquet flowers, is an addition to the taste for the camellia as a florists flower, and no doubt if the good kinds came, the raisers would find due encouragement. It is a pleasure to note this encouragement on the part of the Horticultural Society, and to be hoped that our camellia growers will respond.

THE CURRANT.

Southern agricultural papers note that the currant is not a great success in that part of the country, and indeed it is somewhat of a failure in many parts further north, yet most parts of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, are admirably adapted to it, which is really, in many respects, one of the most valuable of small fruits. It will grow almost anywhere, and with almost any treatment; all it asks is to be secured against our hottest, scorching suns. On this account it is partial to sub-mountain districts, which are usually cooler than on the plains. We do not know, however, but even very far South the currant could be very well grown, if care were taken to shade the ground by a thick layer of corn stalks. For this purpose, the plants should be set in blocks or squares about three feet apart, and the corn stalks might be set so as to cover the whole surface—say four or six inches deep. The sun does not seem to injure the leaves or fruit, but acts badly through heating the ground, and in this way affecting the roots. The corn stalks gives the coolness required. We recommend this plan to our far southern readers, and to those at home, who have failed to grow currants well. The signs of failure, are when the leaves fall off early in the season. The fruit the next year is sure to be small and inferior. Many fruits and plants which suffer by overheated ground, may be brought to perfection by this plan of shading the ground with corn stalks. The writer first saw it practiced in the northern part of the State with the strawberry. These were grown in rows for the purpose of laying the stalks straight and close, and the result was enormous crops, while those who kept to the old plan had not two-thirds the crop of the shaded plants. Since then the practice has extended to the northern part of Virginia, and all who have tried it, speak well thereof.

A full crop of wheat removes from five to six times as much nitrogen from the soil as a full crop of cheese.

BAD IMPRESSIONS.

It is often the rule that impressions prevail as actual and undoubted facts, only to be dispelled in time and to the wonder of all that they ever prevailed to any extent. Not many years ago our people were fully convinced that no strawberry was worthy of culture unless it was a pistillate. If it had stamens as well as pistils, that fact was enough to condemn it; and if a seedling, it was at once thrown away. Pistillate strawberries were in some respects a nuisance. Not having any stamens of their own, they produced no fruit. So in order to provide them with pollen, inferior kinds had to be planted in order to furnish the necessary fertilizing influence. We had to have two kinds of strawberries to get along. The good being to give us a good crop of fruit, and the evil one to set off the advantages of the others. He who thought we could not get along without this contradictory duality, was given over to be lost to horticultural salvation.

But now all is completely changed. It is the one who plants a pistillate strawberry that is the lost one. It is enough to be a pistillate to be at once rejected; only hermaphrodite strawberries get any countenance at all.

Another impression we have found to be bad regards potatoes. They were supposed to be of extremely local adaptation. There were nearly as many varieties as there were States in the Union, and with about one only suited to each. As for an English Potato doing well in America, or an American one doing any thing there,—any one suggesting it would have been pitied. But now we find it is just the other way. Our Early Rose is just as likely to do well in California as in New England, and no one ever thinks of naming any one as more likely to do well in one place than in another.—There is no thought of any special adaptation.

More than this, English horticulturists, generally exclusive, have taken hold of our potatoes, and find them do as well as there own, to say the least, and many of their growers praise them above all.

It is the commonest of occurrences to read in English gardening papers of the excellence of American potatoes. The Early Rose, the Peerless, the Surprize, the Alpha, the Parragon—all Americans, are continually being praised. So far we have not returned the compliment—no European potato has achieved a name with us. But who will say it may not be? One of the things however we have learned, is not to cherish too warmly bad impressions.

The farmer who fails to have a liberal sized and well stocked vegetable garden, should have lived and died a bachelor.

VERBENAS.

Of late years a disease has fastened itself on these beautiful plants, which has puzzled horticulturists to understand. It attacks the young growth, giving the plant a rusty appearance from which it never recovers. Many other plants, even the garden tomato, suffer from the same disease, but none so severely as the Verbena. The florists seem only able to keep it down by continuous selection of healthy plants; throwing away the diseased ones, as fast as they are recognized. To prevent it spreading, the best plan is said to be to give the plant all the healthiest conditions possible. There are plenty of light, plenty of pure air, and plenty of good food. In some greenhouses and frames they are placed on low stages, but shelves near the glass are the best. It is lighter there. They should also be where a free circulation of air can be afforded them. The temperature need not be high; but must be high enough to avoid dewy condensation which seems to favor the disease. Good food is furnished by a fresh loamy earth, in which are many decaying roots of grass and other vegetation. Decayed cow manure is said to be an excellent fertilizer to mix with the earth. Where it is not convenient to have this, chicken manure may be a good substitute. This has to be used carefully, however, as when too strong it is destructive; an ounce of this manure ought to be enough for a peck of earth. Guano can be used when neither of the above are to be had, used as recommended for chicken manure. When fresh earth can be had, this alone will make good Verbenas. In the open ground this is often done. Where the Verbenas are to be set, a shovelful of new earth is placed for the old earth taken away. The Verbena is so popular that one wonders what people did for flowers before they came into use; and it will not do to have them leave us from a disease, if any thing can be done to cure them. Anything done to have good Verbenas is well repaid, in the enjoyment they give to every garden lover. Seedling Verbenas are always healthy, the first year, but have to be sown early, or they flower too late to be of much service.

CURING TOBACCO.—From a circular containing description of the Ellsworth Drying House says the *Country Gentleman*, it appears that by means of simple partitions and ventilating doors the currents of air through the tobacco are vertical, thus drying the tobacco more evenly and quicker. The patent claims to cover the idea of vertical currents—the means used being simply and cheaply constructed.

SEASONABLE SUCCESSION OF PEACHES.

By reliable data, acquired from correspondents, and by studying reports of Pomological Societies, and from my own observation, I am convinced that the following list of Peaches will be found to afford a succession of fruit from earliest to latest, in the latitude of Maryland and Virginia; while growers, in the other sections, can modify the list, according to their own judgment and observation.

Under ordinary circumstances, two of a kind will furnish sufficient fruit for a large family, and some to spare; while those growing peaches for market will, of course, suit the number of trees to the demands of the market they have to supply. But, it is safe to say—that with the requisite care to keep up trees enough of all sorts to secure the full succession—there is little or no danger of raising too many, if we consider the ample demands for eating, drying, preserving, and canning.

After the trees are sufficiently grown, to bear good crops, they need very little manure, except a liberal supply of old ashes or lime, and good forest mould, or scraping up the leaves and brush fallen from the trees themselves, to be applied near the roots, and hoed into the soil; and the application of a little salt to the roots of each tree, in winter or early spring, will be found beneficial; salt and alkali do much to keep off the borers; but when they do appear, dig them out with a knife or wire, and apply old ashes, lime and salt; then, with a hoe or spade, cover back the soil over the roots.

VARIETIES FOR THE SUCCESSION.

Early Beatrice, Louisa, and Rivers; 1st to 15th July, even to the last.

Hale's Early, Lewis' Early, and Troth's Early; 15th July to last of August.

Crawford's Early, Tillotson's, Old Mixon, Early York, Cole's Early Red; August to end of September.

Foster, President, Stump the World, George the Fourth, Reeve's Favorite; September to last of October.

Crockett's White, Reeve's Yellow, Druid Hill, Late Rareripe, Fox's Seedling, Lagrange, October Yellow, Heath's Cling, Late Red, and Lemon Cling; October to 10th of November, even to the middle, some times.

There are several—we may say many—other good varieties, corresponding in dates to the middle, and late dates above named; but, with proper care in planting, culture, and some protection, a family or gardener may have, from the above lists, good peaches, for a period of three to four months, every year.

The Early Beatrice, Louise, and Rivers, are

English varieties, and Mr. John Saul, the enterprising nurseryman of Washington, makes a specialty of those three kinds, and is ready to supply them in large or small numbers; and from long acquaintance with him, I am confident his labels can always be depended upon.

There is no question but our people, generally, will be more healthy and robust, if they will eat more freely of all fruits, including grapes, and eat less meat food. Fruits are highly nutritious as well as a luxury.

D. S. CURTISS.

SUGAR BEETS.

In Austro Hungary, twelve to fourteen tons of Sugar Beets are produced per acre, yielding an average of thirteen per cent. of sugar. The form of beet shown in the figure, and a weight not exceeding one pound to each root, is preferred.



The central portion of the beet "b," is found to be the richest in sugar.

The portion marked "a," is used for forage.

Fattening cattle are fed sixty pounds to seventy pounds of the pulp, after the sugar is expressed; and six to eight and a half pounds of meal per diem; and that food is said to produce an increase of weight of over two pounds per day.

The pulp is not considered wholesome food for breeding milch cows. It is also said to be more profitable for making beef than for mutton. The most successful beet production for sugar, is said to have been attained where the drills were sixteen inches apart, and the plants six inches apart in the drills, on fertile loam soil.

W.

BLACK WOOL.—The reason why black wool is not worth as much as white wool of the same quality is, says the *Country Gentleman*, "that black wool can not be bleached and will take no other color perfectly. It can therefore only be used in making the cloth known as "sheep's grey," for which there is but little call. Its quality is also generally inferior.

POTOMAC FRUIT GROWERS.

FEBRUARY SESSION—1875.

This Association met on Tuesday, February 2, at Board of Trade Rooms, in Washington, D. C., a fair number being in attendance: C. Willingham, president, in the chair, J. E. Snodgrass, secretary.

The secretary made statement in regard to the absence of the last proceedings, not published in *The Republican* as had been previously arranged for, which is in consequence of the new editors of that paper having declined to carry out engagements made with previous editors.

Mr. Needham thought it better to return to the *Evening Star* to publish the minutes, and his motion to that effect was passed, and the secretary was authorized to make such arrangements.

Col. Curtiss proposed A. J. Wedderburn as a new member, and he was unanimously elected. Mr. W. is publisher of *The Fireside*.

The president read a paper, in response to his election again as president of this society, adding interesting remarks on the use and growth of the apple generally. He spoke also of the culture of the pear, and the modes of improving and increasing varieties of that delicious and popular fruit.

A vote of thanks was then passed, and the paper ordered to be printed with the minutes.

The quince was considered, as a market fruit, when Major King said he had not completed his paper on the quince, and would state what he had prepared, and defer further statements to a future meeting.

Judge Gray asked if the names of apple and pear quinces were the usual and legitimate designations by which quinces were known, and was answered by Major King that they are so known and described. Judge Gray mentioned the orange quince.

Mr. Munson said that what is called the apple quince is generally known as the orange quince.

Mr. Z. M. P. King said he had seen the quince grow luxuriantly in sandy land on the Eastern shore of Virginia.

Mr. Kickum had a fruitful bearing quince tree near his house, around which he put large quantities of coal ashes.

Mr. Needham stated that Mr. Calkins, of N. J., was present, and would make some remarks on fruit growing. He said that quinces sold well and brought good prices, when brought into market after peaches; but early ones, coming in with other fruits, were not profitable.

Stacy H. Snowdon, of Fairfax Co., placed on

the table a basket of handsome apples, in fine state of preservation, of several sorts, including the Spitzemberg, Wine Sap, Romanite, Winterblush and some others, which were much admired and enjoyed by members.

Keeping and preserving fruits was the next topic taken up, and was discussed with lively interest.

Dr. Howland came in, and, upon request, read a paper on the decay, preservation and keeping of fruits. It contained much highly useful information. Fungi is the cause of decay, and this can be prevented by heating and by air-tight cold inclosures. He illustrated his remarks by handsome pictures, plainly exhibiting the formation and growth of spores of fungi in its progress of decomposing the fruits or meats.

He further illustrated the subject with the microscope, by showing portions of apples under high magnifying glasses, which were in progress of decay. He also explained how to test whether our thermometers are correct, and how to determine if not. And he described a cold fruit-house for preserving fruit in Battle Creek, Mich., of large extent—50,000 bushels capacity.

Col. Curtiss moved a vote of thanks for Dr. Howland's paper and illustrations, and that it be printed with the minutes, which passed unanimously.

Prof. Taylor said fungi, or a fungus, is a parasite vegetable, growing and feeding upon decaying fruits and vegetables, by means of their *mycelium*, throwing out numerous spores and rootlets.

Mr. Hiram Pitts proposed William H. King, as a new member, and he was unanimously elected.

Mr. Wedderburn made a statement in regard to the "Potomac Agricultural Society," chartered by the Legislature of Virginia—referring to stock and membership. This is a stock company, of which several of the Potomac Fruit Growers' Society are members.

After some conversation it was decided that the preservation of fruits, the catalogue of varieties most suitable for this region, with some other matters should be taken up for discussion at the next meeting, when on motion the society adjourned to meet, at the same place, on the first Tuesday in March. All persons friendly to fruit growing are invited to be present and join in the debates.

D. S. CURTISS.

THE CURCULIO.—Mr. Heiges stated at a meeting of the Pa. Fruit Growers Association, that he keeps the curculio from his plum trees by covering the trees and fruit after every heavy rain with the bitterest whale oil soap he could procure. The soap is applied by means of a hydropult.

English Trials of Machinery, and Exhibitions and Examinations of Animals, Farms, &c.

Although there have been some very creditable, reliable and useful trials of implements, machinery, &c., in this country, among which are those of *plows*, *harvesting machinery*, &c., in New York State, at various times; and none perhaps more accurately conducted or more useful than the trial of Harvesting Machinery, which took place last summer, near Westchester, Pa., under the auspices of the Chester County Agricultural Society, yet public, official, competitive, properly conducted trials of the different machines, implements and articles used in husbandry, need to be more frequent and more general, and thorough.

We find on examining the Report of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, in its journal for 1874, for the possession of which we are indebted to J. Howard McHenry, Esq., that the work of judges and examining committees is more thoroughly systematized, and conducted with greater prudence and care there, than in this country.

The committee on "Prize Farms," require geographical and geological maps of the competing farms, and very accurate and full accounts of all expenses and receipts.

Both the first and second prizes were awarded in 1874, to yearly tenants.

The first prize was 50 pounds value in a silver cup, with a purse of 50 pounds.

The second prize was 50 pounds.

There were 12 farms entered in 1874.

A third prize of a gold medal was recommended by the committee, for the third best managed farm. The fourth was "highly commended," and the fifth "commended."

The judges were especially instructed to consider 1st. General management with a view to profit.

2nd. Goodness and suitability of live stock, especially for breeding purposes.

3rd. Productiveness of crops.

4th. Management of grass land.

5th. State of gates, fences, roads, &c.; general neatness.

6th. Book-keeping.

We look upon the last item as quite as essential as any other.

The tenant farmer could not pay the enormous rental there exacted, unless his business was systematically conducted, which is impossible without full and accurate farm accounts.

We are satisfied that a judicious system of farm accounts on farms in this country, would soon double the profits. Very few farmers here known

the net profit on any crop, or any class of live stock. "*In*" or out of funds at the end of the year, is all that many know about their business. We feel that we cannot suggest anything to our readers that will be more useful to them, than that they commence with the work of the current year, a careful and accurate farm account.

It is very desirable to have an accurate surveyor's plat of the farm, with each lot, as enclosed, correctly shown.

If the plat is made to a scale, in plain, black ink lines, and of a convenient size, 50 or more copies of the plat may be made by photo-lithographing the original, at a cost of ten or fifteen cents a copy: which we are prepared to have done promptly, for all who apply.

In the use of one of said maps of the farm annually, the crop or crops grown on each lot may be written on the lot with the amount of crop produced and other interesting data, that will be suggested in each respective case.

By filling up one of these maps every year, and preserving them; by reference, the product of any lot, any year may be seen at a glance.

The lots should each be numbered on the plat, and in speaking of the lots, the number should be used.

A diary should also be kept in which the temperature, the weather, amount of rain fall, &c., should be recorded.

The fertilizers, seed, &c., used on each lot should be recorded, the success and failures, and the supposed cause of the latter, &c.

By preserving such record, and frequently referring to it—improvement in the management and system can scarcely fail to be the result.

A system of simple farm accounts should be taught in the district schools, which would early interest farmers sons in this very important branch of farm economy.

May we not hope that at least one farmer, in each school district, will see the importance of what we have recommended, and set about at once to inaugurate a system of accounts that will enable him to know what he is doing? We believe there will be more than one: and that none will ever regret that they have taken this first step toward systematic farm management.

We would recommend that Agricultural Societies offer liberal prizes for the best farm account, and for the second and third best.

SUPPORTS FOR ORNAMENTALS.—Speaking of these, A. S. Fuller says: "Honeysuckles trained over an old rock or heap of stones, look fully as well if not better than when covering some costlyrellis."

THE
MARYLAND FARMER,
A STANDARD MAGAZINE

EZRA WHITMAN,
Proprietor.

Col. S. SANDS MILLS,
Conducting Editor.

Col. W. W. W. BOWIE,
Associate Editor.

OFFICE—145 WEST PRATT STREET,
Opposite Maltby House,

BALTIMORE.

T. C. DORSEY, Business Correspondent.
D. S. CURTISS, Washington, D. C.,
Correspondent and Agent.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 1, 1875.

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One dollar and fifty cents per annum, in advance.
Five copies and more, one dollar each.

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½ " 6 "	40 00
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Special Contributors for 1875.

N. B. Worthington, Barnes Compton, Dr. E. J. Henkle, John Merriman, A. M. Halsted, Ed. L. F. Hardcastle, D. Lawrence,	John Carroll Walsh. John Lee Carroll, Augustus L. Taveau, John Feast, John Wilkinson, John F. Wolfinger, C. K. Thomas.
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MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Rooms of the Society, at the S. W. corner of Fayette and Eutaw Streets, are open daily from 10 o'clock, A. M., to 6 P. M., for the RECEPTION OF VISITORS.

The March Meeting will be held THURSDAY, March 4th, at 11 A. M.

A. BOWIE DAVIS, President.

T. B. DORSEY, Secretary.

MARYLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The March Meeting and Exhibition of this Society, will be held at Raine's Hall, Baltimore Street, on Thursday 18th of March, at 7 o'clock, P. M. All interested are cordially invited to attend.

EZRA WHITMAN, President.

T. C. DORSEY, Secretary.

TO THE READERS OF THE FARMER.

Our readers will be, we are sure, pleased to find from this number, that the proprietor of the Maryland Farmer, has been successful in securing the services of PROF. J. WILKINSON, on our editorial staff. The public are already familiar with the writings of this gentleman, which have appeared often in our columns and in other agricultural and scientific journals. His talent, learning and experience in both teaching the science and demonstrating the practice of agriculture; his knowledge as an engineer and architect, and his well known taste and skill as landscape gardener, eminently fit him, to impart much useful and practical information to our readers on such important subjects as draining, farm buildings, laying off the ground, the dairy in all its branches, &c. We therefore gladly welcome our distinguished friend to a high chair in our editorial sanctum, and submit here-with his salutatory.

THE CO-EDITOR'S DEBUT.

In embarking in the duties of co-editor of this journal, we shall endeavor to perform them to the greatest advantage of the numerous readers of the "FARMER," who we know have long been in the habit of looking upon it as a safe and reliable guide in the practical prosecution of the manifold branches and duties embraced in the vocation of the planter and farmer.

The vastness of the work of sagaciously and fitly catering to the requirements of the votaries of a great National Industry, like that of agriculture in America, is greatly increased by the broad geographical area it embraces, with its infinite variety of production, natural and artificial; the constant and important changes, of necessity, to be inaugurated—the vicissitudes and necessities growing out of general financial embarrassment; and the calamitous effects, to be philosophically met, of those appalling scourges of the producer; the rural conflagration—the flood here, and the drought there—the annihilation of all vegetation by the ruinous and sickening ravages of insects, sweeping before them, as with the besom of destruction from whole States, every dependence for food of both man and beast; the cereal production that shall, in quantity and quality, meet with the most ready and most remunerative sale abroad—the selection of breeds of domestic animals, for each and all purposes, adapting each to climate, uses, &c.—and the study of the nature of, and remedies for the numerous and increasing maladies that are attacking both plants and animals. We might swell indefinitely the list of interests and subjects, that the editor of

an agricultural and horticultural journal is expected to discuss, and to correctly present to the reading public, but those enunciated will suffice to establish the fact, that his field of labor is alike extensive and important.

Having for years been a regular contributor to this journal, and its constant reader, and also enjoying the personal acquaintance of a majority of its widely scattered and numerous list of subscribers, acquired in the practice of our profession in the extensive field of practice which has for years been mainly identical with that in which the *MARYLAND FARMER* circulates so extensively, we feel that we are quite familiar with their farm practice in the past, and fully appreciate all the necessities for its reform and improvement, which it will be our ardent and constant purpose to aid in inaugurating as rapidly as circumstances will permit. We shall be ever ready to counsel the planter and farmer in all cases wherein he feels that our experience, and long study of the complex art, to the detail of which, our well-lengthened life has been so constantly and actively devoted.

The columns of the "FARMER" will in the future, give us superior advantages for inculcating and disseminating information and instruction, not hitherto enjoyed, and we trust we shall not be slow in availing of it.

It may not be improper to state, in this connection, that the publisher of the "Farmer," in calling us to the editorial chair, expressed to us in emphatic terms, that he "*had resolved that the "Maryland Farmer" should have the well deserved reputation of being one of the most practical and useful Agricultural and Horticultural Journals in the country.*"

Mr. Whitman, having long been an extensive dealer in agricultural machinery, seeds, implements, &c., is very conversant with all the necessities of the farmer and planter; and as a horticulturist he is interested to that degree, and wields so potent an influence in that rapidly developing art, that largely, through his efforts, a Maryland State Horticultural Society was organized more than a year since, of which he was made the President.

The Horticultural Department of the FARMER compares favorably with its contemporaries, and is improving with each successive number.

The interest and character of the Journal will be elevated and improved in proportion as the subscriptions are numerically increased, for it is the purpose of the publisher to expend the receipts from subscriptions in embellishing and otherwise improving the Journal, until the highest standard of interest and excellence is attained, and until

that superiority, as compared with all others in the country, is generally admitted by the readers. In no way can that standard be reached so rapidly and certainly as by every subscriber communicating to the editors, accounts of the systems of tillage, cropping, manuring, harvesting, preserving and marketing his products of every description.

It should be borne in mind that the publication of failures, with the causes, and the systems it is proposed to substitute for the unsuccessful ones abandoned, are often invaluable; as such published failures will constitute a chart, or safe guide for others, who might, in the absence of such knowledge, adopt and pursue a similar course, thereby repeating, indefinitely the unsuccessful practice, until the aggregate loss may become serious; which might have been avoided, had the first failure only been published.

Many who talk sterling common sense, and are capable of communicating valuable features of their practice, are deterred from so doing by their inability to write in the style that professional writers do. They should remember that we do not want all plowmen nor all writers, and if the writer should attempt to wield the plow, the failure would often be greater than if the plowman would attempt to use the pen.

We neither expect nor desire displays of penmanship, or rhetoric, we want the facts plainly and unpretendingly expressed, and the editor can use his judgment in pruning for the press.

The most valuable matter contained in agricultural journals is generally that contributed by hard working, hard handed farmers, who make no pretense to style in writing; that is the class from whom we hope to learn most, and whose aid we cordially solicit to enable us to make the "Farmer," every number of it, worth more than the cost of several years subscriptions.

Working farmers, will you not aid in making your Journal what you desire it should be? We believe you will.

JOHN WILKINSON.

THE GULF STREAM DAIRY ROOM.—We have received a number of letters of inquiry from parties, asking where they could see a Gulf Stream Dairy in use. We will state that there are none in use as yet, but we have just received a note from Wm. S. Taylor, Esq., of Burlington, N. J., who has had the Gulf Stream Dairy in operation some two months. He says: "As to the Dairy, I know that the ventilation works perfectly, and "*up hill*," as you said it would. I know too that my butter is improved amazingly, and my cream altogether a different article."

MARYLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The regular February meeting of the Maryland Horticultural Society was held at Raine's Hall, Ezra Whitman, president, T. C. Dorsey, secretary. To make the meeting more interesting, and to excite a greater interest in the society, a list of premiums was offered for flowers, vegetables, &c, and the exhibition was very creditable.

One of the largest collections of flowers was exhibited by the president, Mr. Whitman, through his gardener, F. Fauth, Jr. His collection embraced Chinese primroses, fuchsias, mignonette, pansies, hanging baskets, vases filled with fuchsias and other dropping plants, bouquets, a collection of daisies, a vase in which strawberries were growing, oranges, &c.

John Feast exhibited sixteen varieties of flowers, some of them very rare; James Pentland, cinerarias, Chinese primroses, cut flowers, &c. R. W. L. Rasin, three cucumbers about fifteen inches in length, and cut flowers; A. L. Black, camellias, primroses, &c. Captain C. H. Snow, orchids, very fine; Charles D. Oxford, variety flowers. Mrs. George Brown, camellias and celery. John Cook, asparagus. M. Perine & Sons, terra cotta ware.

The report of President Whitman, chairman of the Horticultural Hall Committee was read, and received, but laid over to the next monthly meeting for consideration. This report, strongly urges the purchase of ground and erection of a Hall by a joint Stock Company, and shows how very impracticable it is to get suitable rooms in proper location, for exhibitions of the Society, and hence their absolute necessity to obtain if possible a Hall of their own, after the plan of the Boston and other great Horticultural Associations, believing that there is not only money, but taste enough in this great City to build up a Horticultural Society on a level or superior to any now existing in this country.

The subject for discussion, "Roses," was taken up, and papers read by Jas. Pentland and John Feast. Remarks were afterwards made by Messrs. W. D. Brackenridge and John H. White, both of Baltimore county, respecting the success attending the efforts of Maryland florists. Col. D. S. Curtiss, of Washington, D. C., being present, was called upon and made a very entertaining address upon the subject of horticulture.

The subject of having a peach exhibition on the part of growers and others, during the ensuing August, was introduced by Captain Charles H. Snow, of Harford county, when the resolution offered by Mr. James Pentland, "that the subject be

referred to the executive committee, to confer with those interested in the peach crop so as to have an exhibition," was amended, on motion of Mr. Rasin, to authorize a committee of three to make the inquiries and report the result thereof to the executive committee, who by the constitution have exclusive charge of all exhibitions of the society.

On a suggestion of Captain Snow, the subject for discussion at the March meeting will be "Winter blooming window plants." The awards were announced and the meeting adjourned.

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the last meeting of the State Agricultural Society, there were several papers of interest read and other business of importance transacted. A resolution of significance and well worthy of consideration was passed which after stating the fact that there were three associations in the city tending to advance one great object, the Mechanics Institute the Horticultural Society and the State Agricultural Society, it was "resolved that the Executive Committee be requested to invite a conference with the authorities of the Maryland Institute, and of the Horticultural Society to ascertain whether it is desirable or practicable to unite the three associations in one grand effort to build up in Baltimore an Industrial Association, embracing the objects of each, worthy of the City and of the State."

The able President and energetic Secretary of this Society have inaugurated a new feature in the conduct of its affairs, by publishing in pamphlet form a monthly record of the proceedings and all papers read to the Society. This is for the members alone. It is free to members. This is an excellent idea and will no doubt enhance the public interest in the Society and materially benefit the interests of agriculture. The remarks of President Davis on the Dairy were well expressed and instructive, and delivered in his usual happy style. Other gentlemen also addressed the Society on the Dairy and other subjects.

We find among our exchanges the "BALTIMORE HERALD," a monthly sheet, of excellent typographical execution, edited and publisher by Thomas Washington Smith, Esq., Baltimore, Md. It is largely devoted to the advertising of our heaviest business houses, and is gratuitously circulated far and near. We have learned from the head of a large manufacturing house of Baltimore, that it has been a very efficient and profitable advertising medium. It is very evident that many others have had similar experience in advertising.

Montgomery County Farmers' Convention.

A large gathering of farmers of Montgomery County took place on Thursday, January 14th, at the Lyceum, Sandy Spring. This is the third annual meeting of the kind which is under the auspices of the Montgomery County Farmers' Club, who here get together on common ground for discussion of questions pertaining to agriculture.

Henry C. Hallowell, presiding officer, opened the meeting by a forcible exhortation for those present to contribute, without hesitation, such information as they could, upon the questions to be discussed, and made many excellent suggestions upon the necessity of an interchange of opinion, that the best possible mode of working the land might be ascertained, and quoted a letter from Col. Capron, to the Department of Agriculture, who stated that the soil of Japan had been worked 1,000 years, without diminishing its fertility.

Dr. F. Thomas read the report of the proceedings of the last convention.

Ed. P. Thomas read the report of the Laundry Committee, who had been appointed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a co-operative laundry for the convenience of the families of the vicinity. As estimate was made that 5,800 pieces could be washed for \$56; that engine and boiler would cost about \$1,000; that the ordinary washing of a family costs \$100 a year, but could be done in a laundry for \$54.

Such work as the above looks like lifting up the farmer's vocation, by relieving farmers' wives of the severe tasks at present imposed upon them.—The Committee was continued with full powers.

The Secretary read the report of the Committee on Co-operative Dairying, giving an estimate of \$3,000 as the cost of necessary factory for 400 cows, with a man to work it, for \$800 a year; the Committee thought that some time would elapse before farmers would give up selling hay and grain and join in the dairy work.

Wm. Hy. Farquhar read a summary of the proceedings of the Sandy Spring Farmers' Club: that it took 10 cords of wood a year to supply a tenant; that drilling oats had been found a good plan; that cattle cannot be bought in the fall to be fed and sold in the spring at a profit (whether fed on rough feed or grain is not known); cattle cannot be fattened on hay; that a two-year old colt was too young to breed from; that a garden should be made where there is quack grass to exterminate it; five of the members sow plaster on clover; most favor deep planting of potatoes; the average yield of the wheat of the members was twenty bushels wheat per acre; average of corn

7 to 8 barrels per acre; average of the hogs killed, 198 pounds; very few oats are sowed by the Club; ten members harrow their corn; to kill potato bugs, by hand or Paris Green; results showed oyster shell lime to be good; 143 bushels potatoes per acre raised by the members; poles are better for ditches than stones; 42 bushels wheat per acre had been raised on a certain field. Much applause followed this reading.

Edward P. Thomas read an able report of the proceedings of the Enterprise Club, which was received with great favor by the convention.

(Our space will permit us to give only an abstract of these interesting reports.) Only six of sixteen members raise sheep, on account of insufficient protection by law; most of the members prefer to plow six inches deep.

The Montgomery County Farmers Club made a report through the Secretary of the Convention, which was prepared by John Thomas, giving a list of the best apples and peaches for the section; also an account of the planting of locust seed obtained from Virginia; Peerless potatoes had yielded 120 bushels per acre; the profits of dairy farming are small.

The Convention proceeded to general business. Philip T. Stabler stated that he had paid \$11,000 in 24 years for guano and labor, and had sold \$13,000 worth of wheat and potatoes in that time; has always kept a farm account, and can tell what part of farming pays and what does not.

If we had more of Mr. Stabler's system, we should hear less about the loss of farming. Josiah Jones has kept the same flock of sheep since 1840, changing his bucks occasionally; alters and docks lambs soon after birth.

Geo. L. Stabler reported an income of \$1,010 from a herd of 10 Jersey cows, giving 248 pounds of butter per cow.

Richard Lansdale gave an account of his experience with the "Marsh" Harvester, which carries two men, (besides the driver,) on the machine, who do all the binding; puts an awning over the men who prefer it to having five binders behind ordinary reapers; cut 40 acres in 3½ days, and 22 acres in 22 hours; two horses, 4½ feet cut; same beam cut the 40 acres.

Arthur Stabler presented a section of tile, thirteen inches long, of which he made 8,000, selling at \$2 a hundred.

i. The question came up, shall we use lime and what kind?

Geo. E. Brooke spent several years pulling out several thousand bushels of lime, and has seen no benefit.

Chas. Stabler has used lime to advantage. R.

Iddings sold a great deal of lime in Harford County, where they hauled twelve miles, and thought it paid. Samuel Hopkins said farmers in Howard County used it to advantage. Philip T. Stabler said lime should be burnt with fine coal mixed with the wood. Arthur Stabler said where his father put lime, the land is better; has cut heavy grass where lime was applied, when the other part of the field was poor pasture. Thomas Lea hauled 1,000 bushels lime, and has seen no results. Edward P. Thomas spoke favorably of the use of lime.

2. To what extent is it profitable to use commercial fertilizers?

Wm. J. Thomas has used 10,000 bushels lime, and thinks it acts best with fertilizers.

Josiah Jones put in ten acres, and made 60 bushels oats on the lot; put on ten bushels bones, and 250 pounds Peruvian guano per acre, and made 160 barrels corn on 20 acres; sowed in oats, and made 400 bushels; sowed ten bushels bones, and 250 lbs. Peruvian guano, and made 20 bushels wheat; recommends barn-yard manure in connection with fertilizers, for a stand of grass; thinks 300 pounds per acre of fertilizers about right. Geo. L. Stabler tried 250 and 500 pounds bone, and saw no difference in the yield. Roger B. Farquhar read a brief paper on the advantages of co-operation and agricultural literature, which showed a correct appreciation of the privileges and duties of the modern farmer.

3. Does pasturing land, after harvest, injure the succeeding crop?

Mr. Brooke pastures wheat stubble close, to prevent smothering. Thomas Lea pastures closely. J. Jones believes in pasturing; R. Iddings also; Wm. Lea says he can cut one-third more where the grass is left without pasturing. E. J. Hall would pasture moderately only, to prevent smothering. R. B. Farquhar opposes close pasturing. Roger Brooke also opposes close pasturing. Walter Talbot approves of pasturing. Mr. Muckster approves of moderate pasturing only. Samuel Hopkins opposes close pasturing.

Dawson Lawrence, in closing the discussion on this point, cited a field of his which had been left unpastured, (save by a small calf and colt,) which yielded the largest crop of hay he had ever cut, and one of the largest which had ever been raised in the section; the same field had produced thirty bushels wheat per acre, brought up from sterility without lime; opposed such heavy dressings of lime; thought ten bushels good Texas lime per acre, properly put on, enough for five years; said the average consumption of the cereals was only 54 pounds lime per acre; as evidence of what

Maryland could do, mentioned a yield of 30 per cent. of cream in the herd of Thomas Lansdale, and 29½ in his own.

4. What time should cows come in on a Butter Dairy Farm?

Dr. Thomas thought they should come in in winter. Granville Farquhar says some people in Washington prefer the packed butter. Benj. H. Miller is in favor of the cows coming in in winter; is milking eight cows, giving six pounds of butter a week; feeds them one-half bushel a day, middlings costing 34 cents a bushel.

5. Has farming suffered more than other callings?

To save the time of discussing this question, it was put to a vote, and answered with an emphatic and unanimous no—showing, as remarked by the President, that although the present was a time of great pecuniary depression, and the profits of farming are small, farmers were satisfied with their vocation, and willing to enjoy the many and great advantages of their situation, and wait until better times for better results, laboring in the meantime by improved processes and implements for success.

The Secretary read an essay which had been prepared for the Enterprise Club, by E. P. Thomas, on How to get a set of Clover.

By vote, it was determined to continue the institution, and the meeting adjourned to meet in a similar convention next year.

For the intelligence, numbers and appreciation of its members, for the entertaining as well as instructive character of the proceedings, we hold up this convention as a model worthy of imitation over all the land.

Labor Troubles.

We find by reading the history of British husbandry for 1875, that farmers have cause of complaint there as well as here of the demoralization of farmer labor. It is stated that one farmer who was a competitor for the prizes offered by the Royal Agricultural Society in 1874, was without laborers for ten weeks, the men being on a "strike." Labor strikes are often the cause of great loss and inconvenience to employers, but we can scarcely conceive of a more unpleasant dilemma for a tenant farmer, working a force of twenty hands, than to be left all alone in the busy season for a period of ten weeks. These strikers were all farm laborers, and were receiving 13s. per week. After losing ten weeks, they returned to their work, at one shilling per week advance.

For the Maryland Farmer.

NITRE BEDS AND COMPOSTS.

The question—"What do you mean by a Nitre Bed?" is asked by a veteran in agricultural literature. Perhaps he means—what do *you* mean? rather than, what is meant by a Nitre bed in contrast with a compost? otherwise, it is most probable that "the million" among farmers could not answer the question, and that this lever in our agriculture has been ignored by the journals—or, that it has *never* been appreciated in relation to agriculture—but only in relation to gun powder, or war, which "the good book" assumes to be the opposite,—where "the spear and the pruning hook," the "swords and plow shares" contrast. It is only by contrast that any thing is noticed; much more it is important that we place "the man and dog" in the picture of a house, so that its height may be measured *spontaneously* or automatically. Moreover, the compost and Nitre bed, should always be associated by every farmer *who lives near a city or large town*—as the former grows in value at the expense of the latter—while the latter grows *spontaneously*, "as a tree while he sleeps," provided he turn it over or stir it up, occasionally,—viz: The Nitre bed assimilates Nitrogen from the atmosphere, whereas the compost merely assimilates plant food from refuse, and digests it, so as to form quasi "virgin soil" or "leaf mold," containing *all* the elements of plant food, whereas "surface soil" loses those elements in every crop, and has no resource but the disintegration, or "weathering" of its minerals, such as feldspar and mica, and many surface soils are comparatively destitute of these. Those soils that are best adapted to "truckling," are apt to be deficient in these minerals, and consequently are more dependent on composts; such soils are easily stirred, but, though their cultivation does not require half the labor, it requires more than double the amount of compost, as all "the stirring of Jethro Tull," will not produce truck on such soil, "although he denied very zealously the necessary use of manures of all kinds." ** Even Tull placed Nitre at the head of his list of those substances which he deemed to be the essential food of plants." The constant stirring of some soils, such as he worked, produces a natural Nitre bed; it is doubtful whether he recognized this fact, but it is an impracticable mode of culture in this age, and the "artificial Nitre bed" will concentrate and save labor, also utilize laborers under cover of a shed, when driven from the field by rain. In a subsequent essay, we propose to contrast the materials of a Nitre bed with those of a compost. The Nitre bed should be parallel with

the compost, and on a more elevated surface, if possible, as the leachings of the Nitre may be used more conveniently in enriching the compost, from time to time. Whereas the Nitre bed is permanent, the compost is annually applied to the hills of corn, &c. In July, 1839, the Royal Agricultural Society, of England, awarded a premium of ten pounds (£10) for an essay on making compost, and it was published in their Quarterly Journal, volume I, page 135.

The republication of this essay would enrich any of our journals of agriculture, and stimulate our farmers to rely more on domestic fertilizers. We may add another point of contrast between composts and Nitre beds—is the relative value of a shed for the latter, such as is used in a brick yard, allowing it to be frequently sprinkled with rain, but seldom drenched or leached thereby. Having presented an outline of our ideal Nitre bed in contrast with a compost, the contents of each may be contrasted, subsequently.

DAVID STEWART, M. D.

Formerly Chemist of Maryland State Agricultural Society, &c.

PRACTICAL REMARKS ON ROOTS.

In his excellent treatise, on Turnips, Mr. Landreth says:

"The value of succulent food, in a hygienic point of view, to man, and to animals which minister to his wants, need not be commented on. All who have paid attention to the subject agree in opinion as to its advantages, indeed, its absolute necessity, if the preservation of health be studied."

Of course, taking animals off the green and succulent food, of summer and autumn, and confining them exclusively to the dry food ordinarily fed in winter, cannot be wholly beneficial, in fact, must be more or less detrimental. Therefore, every judicious farmer will provide, in season, for a proper supply of roots to feed his animals in winter. For this purpose, turnips are the most common. But, for milch cows, and for horses, carrots are preferable. Horses are very fond of carrots; and if they have from one to two pecks per day, it will keep them in better health, more lively, and with loose hides and smooth, glossy coats of hair. Beets and carrots are better for milch cows than any of the turnip family; but the latter are just as good for oxen and young stock. Also, potatoes are good for stock, in winter.

There are a number of varieties, of all the above named roots, from which selection may be made; and now is the time for farmers to begin looking out for them,

D. S. CURTISS,

More Cattle and more Provision for them.

To the Editors of the Maryland Farmer.

I am interested in the statement made in your February number, by a correspondent who signs himself "Chester County, Pa.," giving his experience of seven years with Hungarian Grass. What he says of its value for feeding is consistent with the estimate made of it by many others, yet it does not appear, after many years, to have taken a settled place in any of our systems of farming.

There is a reason for this in our grain farming country, where there is little stock to be provided with winter provender, and the corn and wheat crops supply long food in abundance. The tendency of our farming is now, I think, towards diminishing the area of these crops and multiplying live stock of one sort or another. There must of necessity go along with this, better provision of winter supplies; for there can be no profit of stock kept merely alive on straw and cord fodder. Hay of one kind or another will be required and the question will be made how best to supply this without interfering too seriously with our already settled plan of operations.

It has occurred to me while reading the article above alluded to that Hungarian Grass, may very aptly take a place in our common rotations and very conveniently supply the largest demand of the farm for an increase of good winter provender. If a demand can be found for it in our markets too, that would increase its value.

The position I should assign it would be that which the crop of oats usually takes, after the corn crop. This latter, (oats,) is, I think, not a satisfactory crop. It is very unsuitable for grass-seeding and its best use is to occupy the ground which is to be seeded to wheat in the fall. To be made a profitable crop it must be sown earlier in spring than spring weather commonly permits, and the harvest time is a very inconvenient period where other and more valuable harvests of grain and hay have been pressing. The Hungarian Grass would prove to be in itself a more valuable crop than the oats. Much more valuable if it can be made to yield even a ton of good hay. The other advantages it offers, are that all the spare time from first of March to first of June is allowed for preparation —giving ample opportunity for thorough ploughing and manuring, and that the time of harvesting would come during the comparative leisure of the month of August.

But the point to which I wish to call attention is this; that the spring preparation for the Hungarian will be substantially the preparation for seeding wheat on the same ground in fall. The seed

being sown the first to the tenth of June on a thoroughly prepared seed bed, take possession at once, to the exclusion of all other growth, and when harvested will leave nothing but its own perishing stubble. The first frost will destroy any lingering vitality it may have, and it is possible, I think, that the seed wheat may be drilled in without again breaking the ground. A two horse cultivator at least will break the surface sufficiently. The August fallow of the oats stubble will have been substituted by the leisurely and thorough preparation in spring for the seed bed of the Hungarian Grass; making a much better and far more economical preparation for wheat.

This is only a suggestion for experiment which will be made, I hope, this season by some who may sow Hungarian seed.

No one should suppose that he is likely to make a profitable crop of this, except on rich, or well manured land. It is a rapid growing and exhausting crop, and if fed well, will pay well ordinarily.

Should it fail from drought or other cause to get the good of the fertilizer used upon it, it will be so much the better for the grain and grass to follow. Your correspondent says that "in a reasonable season" his treatment "will ensure at least one and a half tons per acre," and that he is feeding out to "thirty head of horses, cows and fattening steers, with fine results." It is worthy our attention who want more good cattle food.

Respectfully,

N. B. WORLINGTON.

IMPORTANT FACTS.

Mr. M. W. Wood, in 1872, states in the *Western Planter*, as follows:

"Grapes abundant, and pears a good yield. It will be, perhaps, a good thing for the fruit men west of us to know, that this Society through an efficient committee have by contract secured peach boxes of good material, sawed and cut to a regular gauge and shipped to the nearest depot for \$4.50 per hundred; 45 dollars per 1000 boxes.—[4½ cents each.]

They charge \$6.25 per hundred, in our market. Thirty thousand boxes were ordered of the manufacturer in Quincy, Ill. for the use of the members of the Adams County Horticultural Society, and three car loads have already been shipped."

Writing to a Southern paper about the peach rot in Hale's Early, Mr. F. W. Lemosy says:

I am satisfied that its vigorous growth was the cause of the fruit rotting about the time it should have matured, it having made a growth of from 4

to 6 feet that season. My conclusions were, that upon the same principle that the vine with too much vigor of growth sloughed its fruit, so must Hale's Early, or the same thing. I, therefore, this season, let the grass and weeds take possession of the orchard to check the rapid growth of my trees, and the result was a success, as I think I am the only one who realized a profit from Hale's Early in our county. My trees paid me well—the crops selling for \$600, which I consider a good yield for so young an orchard; and if I had not made a mistake in handling them, they would have realized more. I am now fallowing my orchard for oats to be seeded this month, and over them I shall seed grass, and by allowing my orchard to remain in grass, expect to make Hale's Early a success.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Lemosy has found a way to secure a crop of Hale's Early, and hope he may continue to succeed both with his peaches and his magnificent vineyard at Laurel Hill.

THE GROSBEAK AND POTATO BUG.

Prof. Beasey, of the Iowa State Agricultural College, says "that the Red Breasted Grosbeak is the natural destroyer of the potato beetle. This statement has been corroborated by others, and a communication from S. B. Higgins of Baxter, Iowa, in that paper, gives an account of his observations to the same effect. He has watched them flutter about the potato vines like humming birds, apparently picking and eating the bugs very fast. He also learned from one of his neighbors that these birds effectually exterminated the potato bug from about two acres of potatoes which were planted near some timber.

This bird is described in the *Homestead* as "one of our native birds, abounding in the entire territory of the United States north of the Gulf Coast. The male has a short heavy beak; black head, back and wings, with three white bands on the wings, part of the outer tail feathers white, and a red, rose-colored breast, the color extending under the wings; it is about eight inches in length. It feeds on grain, berries and insects, and is one of the very few of the insect destroying birds that devours the potato bug."

If this be so, it will be hailed as a friend by all farmers, and all will be desirous of protecting this bird."

I believe these three facts—cheap fruit boxes, cure for peach rot, and the potato bug catcher—are worth the notice and attention of the readers of the *Maryland Farmer*, and may be a benefit to the farmers and fruit growers, in this region.

D. S. C.

Translated from the French of Le Journal d' Agriculture Pratique, Paris.

FRIENDS AND FOES OF PROPERTY.

The Barn-owl who we see some times on the roofs, destroys the mice and rats which infest our granaries, and the field and garden mice, which frequent our gardens.

The little Screech-owl which establishes itself in the hollows of the trees of our orchards, and the Horn-owl attack not only rodents (mice, rats, &c.,) but also upon occasion, large coleophers (beetles).

The Sparrow-owl passes over grounds where field-mice are sporting and gives chase to insects.

To sum up, the owl proper, which dwells in the woods makes its usual living of mice, (garden, field, doormice) and other ravagers of wood-land.

He does not reject the coleophers in the state of larvae, or perfect insects, nor even the caterpillars so common on the trees: we will add that he readily watches rabbits at the borders of their warrens and that he eats them: he is accused also of destroying young hares.

M. de Schudi, a savant of our age, who has observed and learned much, relates in one of his works—and we have no difficulty in believing it—that a couple of owls carried in one night, eleven mice to their young, and that seventy five caterpillars of the sphinx of the pine, one of the worst of butterflies.

Are not these sufficient to palliate the little sins with which he has been charged above?

Now a few words on birds of lesser name whose faults and virtues merit the notice of the cultivator.

Among others we mention the troublesome magpie at the risk of displeasing some who it appears attribute to this bird all the virtues imaginable: the magpie and the jackdaw pursue without let or stop, small birds generally, destroy their eggs and their young, attack our fruits and devastate our pea beds; to be just, it is proper to remember that they also swallow many insects, but in view of the depredations they commit their services do not appear sufficiently remunerative.

The magpie has, further, in common with the crow or black-rook: it steals even from the farm yards and kills without scruple young chicks and ducklings; the feathers of the wings and tail of the magpie and those of the wings of the jack-daw are employed in industry: as for the flesh of the jack-daw no one likes or seeks it.

The farmer who fails to keep a correct account with each lot and crop, is very apt to cheat himself.

A NUMBER OF THINGS.

Recently several topics, as follows, have occurred to my mind as worthy the attention of our farmers and fruit growers generally, and which, if well considered, will result in their profit.

Seeing the large achievements of others ought to encourage one to make better efforts. Any noted demand of the market should elicit the best efforts to supply it, and secure the profits of it:

LARGE YIELDS.

Absolute achievement is in most cases more effective teaching, than arguments or theorizing.—What has really been done carries more weight of conviction than profound reasoning.

The agricultural reports contain the experience of Mr. C. R. Darracott, of Henrico Co., Va., produced 2,415 pounds of tobacco from one acre of land, which he sold for \$320.48, of which it is said over one-half was net profit.

From land adjoining he raised 21 barrels (108 bushels) of corn the acre, which with the value of the fodder, netted about \$50 dollars the acre. Thus, does not farming pay?

PEARS.

This solid and delicious fruit is always saleable at remuneration prices, and bears long transportation.

The market stalls and fruit stands in the streets of Washington are now, and have been for months, supplied with good pears, brought all the way from California; and continually sell at prices which pay for that long and costly transit.

Is this well, and as it should be? The best growers all agree that the soils and climates of Maryland and Virginia are as favorable for growing the pear in perfection as California, and therefore our markets should be supplied by home-growers—our own orchards; the fruit will be fresher and more wholesome than that carried so far.

CITIES SWALLOWING UP THE COUNTRY.

By careful notice of statistics and official records, from time to time, it will be seen that the inhabitants in the towns are accumulating wealth much faster than, and at the expense of the farming community; and that the population of the rural districts, comparatively, are decreasing while the towns are increasing in population; and this is true of nearly every State in the Union, as an examination of census for the last decades will show.

Now, the question arises, is this the most healthy condition of society and the nation? Is it desirable that the non-producing classes should increase more rapidly than the producers? Or, is it

desirable that the non-producers of the essentials of living should acquire a solid and unwieldly ascendancy over the producing classes.

These questions are thrown out for thought and digestion, without comments at this time.

D. S. C.

The Fence Tax is an Onerous one.

We would suggest to every farmer and planter proposing the investment of more money and labor in fences, to act the part of wisdom; "sit down and count the cost." The day is not far in the future in this country, when no fences will be used on arable land, except for a few small paddocks around the farm buildings. It has long since been well settled in the minds of those who have fairly tested it, that a *partial soiling* system, is much more profitable than solely depasturing. Good fertile land in judicious soiling crops, will summer well three grown bovines per acre, and it will ordinarily require three acres of the same land, in grass, to summer one animal if pastured.

Drilled Indian corn is a standard soiling crop in this country, but we have found Lucern, properly managed, more profitable than it, or any other crop. A light loam, very deep and fertile, and not steep, we have succeeded best with in the growth of Lucern.

The soil should be free from weeds, in thorough tilth, and the seed should be planted with a grass seed sower, attached to the grain drill, dropping the seed in the open drills, 7 to 9 inches apart, covering with a light seeding harrow, and following with a roller; 14 lbs. of seed per acre will be found a proper quantity. Try a half acre, and you will put in more next year. We never grew a better paying crop than lucern rightly planted and managed.

We have cut three full crops in a season, and left on a proper stand for winter protection. It is very fond of bone meal.

The old established Dry Goods house of Charles Simon & Sons, Baltimore, Md., whose advertisement will be found in this number of the *Farmer*, offers special advantages to purchasers in point of cheapness and superiority of goods. This house has been established for more than half a century, and for liberal and honest dealings with its customers is most favorably known throughout the entire country.

DR. GUTTCETT recommends rubbing warts, night and morning, with a moistened piece of muriate of ammonia. They soften and dwindle away, leaving no such white mark as follows their dispersion with liquor caustic,

Translated from the French for the Maryland Farmer.

Destruction of the Phylloxera.

PRACTICAL AND ECONOMICAL SOLUTION OF THE QUESTION.

(In a recent Order of the Minister of Agriculture of France, offering prizes for the best use of water for irrigating tracts of land, the destruction of vines by the phylloxera was alluded to as evincing the necessity of taking some steps to arrest its ravages: we now give below another suggestion, showing the means there made use of for the purpose.—*Trans.*)

The insufflation of the air into the soil may be done with the greatest ease: on the 4th of July a first practical application, having simply for its object the verification of a fact which had been announced, took place in one of the vineyards in the vicinity of Paris; we give the conditions and the results of this experiment, with the aid of proper materials.

Soil of medium consistence, very deep, strongly hardened by dryness. The tubes of insufflation were sunk parallel to the roots without serious difficulty but with some effort. A hundred litres (22 gals.) of air were introduced into the soil in forty three seconds under the pressure of a half atmosphere only by the aid of thirty three blows of the balance: by putting the ear to the earth, the subterranean rush of the air could be distinctly heard. By means of a rubber pipe the vines can be operated upon several hundred feet from the pump; the size of an air pump is about equal to that of an ordinary plow. Perhaps some labor will be necessary in exceptional cases; that is when the soil is extremely compact and absolutely dry for want of rain; but we assert that there remains no doubt of this practical application and we shall soon have it regularly proved. We may easily account for the mode of penetration of the air into the soil by means of these two experiments; fill an aquarium with dry earth or sand and put the blow pipe against one of the glasses: the same operation may be practiced in a cask; sink a tube obliquely from top to bottom on the slightly moistened surface of the sand, put a piece of gauze previously dipped in soap and water and the expelled air will be indicated by bubbles on the surface of the gauze.

Shingle roofs will last longer without than with paint. A coat of lime-wash on shingle roofs annually, is a good investment.

☞ Subscribe to the Maryland Farmer, and persuade your neighbors to do likewise—\$1.50 a year,

IN MEMORIAM.

We have to deeply regret the death of our neighbor and friend, Mr. DANIEL SCULLY, who died on the 20th of February last, aged 45 years. He was born in King's County, Ireland. He leaves a wife and seven children. When a mere boy, Mr. Scully entered the large Seed and Agricultural Implement Warehouse of R. SINCLAIR, JR., and by diligence and intelligent application to his duties, was soon advanced to the post of Shipping Clerk, then he took charge of the Seed Department, and not long after taken into the business as a partner. From that time he remained as partner with R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co., to the day of his decease.

Mr. Scully, being like most of his countrymen, warm-hearted and generous, with excellent business capacity, and high integrity, he made a large circle of friends, and had a very extensive business acquaintance with the farmers and planters in this State and the Southern States, by all of whom his death will be deplored as a valued friend and honorable merchant.

THE ICE CROP.

We have not harvested so full a crop of good ice in years, as has now been secured. During the early part of January, we visited Eastern and Central New York, and saw the ice harvest at its most active period. We saw it from 10 to 19 inches in thickness and perfect in quality.

We examined sundry ice houses, both private and commercial, and found that they were mainly constructed above ground. The size of the former, and the protection used would not answer at all in the latitude of Baltimore, and further South. An old frame building, twelve feet square, and eight to the plates, entirely above ground, and very open, was being filled with ice sawed into blocks two feet by two feet by nineteen inches, and closely packed, leaving a space of twelve inches all around next to the siding, which was filled with saw dust as the ice house was filled—and about the same depth of saw dust covered the ice. We were informed that this house when thus filled had been found to keep ice admirably every year for ten or more. It is our opinion that such an ice house in Maryland would not keep ice longer than July.—Ice, artificially manufactured, sold last year in New Orleans at \$8.00 per ton. It is being harvested in such quantity in the North that the artificially manufactured ice must be sold much lower to compete with natural ice.

This, we understand, can well be afforded, as fortunes were made last year in the manufacture of ice artificially.

THE DAIRY.

THE DAIRY BUSINESS.

BY DAWSON LAWRENCE.

Without quoting statistics of the production of Dairy Products, or the number of animals, or hands, or buildings employed, to show that the business is a vast one, I will proceed at once to a review of those aspects in which it presents itself to us with most of interest.

I. LOCATION—WATER.

With so many facilities for inter-communication locality now, is a subordinate matter, particularly with the means we can use to keep our products fresh and untainted for a long journey to market; butter reaches us here from California, and from France—but a *farm* for the butter business should have a location that will furnish a good spring of water, not over 58° F. in temperature. There are appliances by which it is claimed this spring of cold water, heretofore considered necessary, may be dispensed with; the water supply certainly is defective and uncertain, but we are looking at the matter as it is usually considered in our locality; with a good spring, unsailing and cold, we have a foundation for a good butter dairy; however good new arrangements may be, good butter is being made through this agency, over all the butter-producing sections.

2. SPRING HOUSE.

An indispensable feature article is a good dairy house; butter can be and is made in certain seasons, by means of ice houses, water-boxes, well-houses, and water from pumps led into the troughs of the milk house, but there are substitutes for what is unobtainable in some sections, or not conveniently obtainable, viz; a good spring house through which runs a constantly changing current of cold water.

3. A GRASS FARM.

I think those who have had much experience in dairying, and those who have watched the effect upon cattle and the milk pail, summer and winter, of the different articles of feed, will agree that grass and hay, clover grass and clover hay, are the best feed for butter-making animals; with these as a bases, the other articles of provender, corn-fodder, green rye, wheat, oats and roots (for upon these few articles, we must mostly, (and can altogether rely for feed,) can be advantageously employed as a change.

4. WE MUST RAISE CALVES.

Another advantage of a grass farm, is the facility of raising calves thereon. I hold that we must

raise our own stock; I do not raise mine, but the principle is a good one; there are good reasons given for not doing it; but with *good* cows, such as the dairyman should have, and a good build of a good butter breed, such as he can have, I do not think the dairyman should expose himself to the risk and pecuniary loss of buying his cows; as this is not, for want of necessary time, an essay of details, I can give no reasons for this opinion; we have a great many recipes for raising calves; many very good and very elaborate, but I will give my plan: four weeks with the cow on good pasture, and a little meal, then turn it out on a clover lot and let it take care of itself; it should have some meal or bran, and of course plenty of water; see that it goes to water; I have heard of calves dying before they found water.

5. COWS—BREEDS.

In the claims of the different breeds—Jersey, Guernsey, Holstein, Brittany, Hereford, Ayrshire, Durham Grade, Natives, I see nothing to cause hesitation or doubt to the mind of experience. I would advise a beginner to get at the foot of the ladder and work up, unless money is no object; for such I feel incompetent to give advise. The choice of breeds is a question of individual ability and situation; there are butter families, and milk families, and beef families, in all the breeds. Experience and observation led me, more and more, to place less and less confidence in *breed*; I might say like the poet, O breed! what errors have been committed in thy name. When we see breeders directing their energies towards securing a black tail—what agricultural value has a black tail or what mechanical value—and a black nose and fancy points, it looks to me like breeding for the eye; we farmers want breeding for the pocket-book. If black points are the *fashion* now, how long before green points will come in? This creates a smile; the Grecian bend created a smile, but it came in; the eye that is caught by a fashion to the exclusion of merit, shows a fickle mind behind it; it lives on change, and all may soon be taught that a great bump on a dorsal vertebrae is the fashionable style for cattle. There are breeders that take cattle and try to make cows of them, and the good effect of judicious breeding and noble efforts of judicious breeders, are worthy of great commendation; let us seek such when we want *pure* breeds, and then we must get a butter family for butter, a milk family for milk, a beef family for beef, and not expect one animal to give a large quantity of milk, of very rich quality, and keep fat enough to kill all the time, and make good beef when killed with the treatment which the ordinary dairyman usually gives, and is compelled to

give his cattle ; this solves the question of breed, and natives are included of course in the remarks ; there are butter natives and milk natives, equal to the best of the imported or well-bred stock, i. e. I have a native whose percentage of cream was 25 ; another one 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 29 $\frac{1}{2}$, (this is the third largest on record;) another 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 29. Now bring on the \$40,000 stock, and let us see the record. Let me be understood. I believe in all this work of improving stock by breeding ; I have purchased blooded stock for breeding purposes, but let us see that the work of breeding goes on in a channel calculated to make better animals, or let us have none of it. From these remarks, it will be seen, that for ordinary use, for beginners, for myself, I prefer to get the best natives adapted to our purpose, butter, milk or beef, and from them keep raising from butter or milk or beef families—either imported or thorough-bred, or native ; Jersey, Ayrshire, Durham or Hereford, I care not if the (social position) family is only a good one ; I do not mean an individual, but a whole family ; we want pedigree in natives as well as foreigners, and I would like to see the best of our natives taken in hand by some of the truly great lights. I would mention a few, but the whole band deserves the badge and armor of ennobled knighthood—who have labored with such good results on other breeds, but for the present let every farmer practice the same rules, and obey the principles of scientific breeding, and in proportion to his intelligence, his energy, his persistence, and his obedience, will be the crown of his reward.

THE DAIRY.

The Annual Meeting of the American Dairymen's Association, was held at Utica, N. Y., opening on the 12th, and closing on the 14th of January. The attendance was very large, and the interest and usefulness of the meeting very satisfactory.

A number of very able Essays were read by some of the most intelligent, scientific and practical dairymen and dairy writers in the country. Nearly every portion of the country, in which dairying is practiced to any notable extent, was represented, and the progress and standing of the interest in the respective districts were quite fully reported.

Statistical data was presented, showing the rapid growth and development of the dairy industry in this country ; and how remarkably production had of late extended into regions in the West, Northwest and Southwest, in which dairying had hitherto received no attention, or scarcely sufficient

for local consumption ; also the rapid annual increase in the amount exported of the quantity, and, in many instances, the quality of the dairy products ; which latter characteristic it was claimed, was such, as to enable us to compete successfully and creditably, with any foreign market.

We were present at the tri-daily meetings of the Association, and being deeply personally interested in the progress and scientific development of the art, we carefully observed and scrutinized the various reports of actual results already attained, the theories advanced, and the probable future of the interest under proper management.

Notwithstanding all the invaluable developments of chemical science pertaining to the manufacture and preservation of dairy products, and their quite general application in the art, and the great industry, experience, intelligence and sagacity of the practical dairymen of this country, it was very evident, that the most scientific and intelligent, felt very sensibly their necessity for a more thorough understanding of the principles controlling the action and changes sought in the manifestation of butter and cheese, also, for those applicable to breeding, feeding and raising of dairy animals.

ABORTION.

We had ardently hoped that new light would have been thrown upon this very important subject, during the discussions of the Association, at its annual meeting, but we were disappointed.

The evil, if it is not increasing in this country, is, certainly quite as great as it has been at any previous period, and we believe greater.

From all that we could gather, relative to the prevalence of the malady, it exists to a much greater extent in old dairy districts, than in those in which the business has more recently been introduced. In very many instances, it is impossible to trace numerous cases of abortion to any known cause, and, despite all efforts to the contrary, it is not unfrequent that 30 to 50 per cent. of the herd have been known to abort.

We visited a dairy of seventy cows, in Madison County, N. Y., in which we had learned that several cases of abortion had occurred, with a view, if possible, to ascertain the cause, and all the conditions under which the cows had aborted.

We found that most of the cases had occurred during the latter portion of the period of pregnancy, say from January 1st, to the latter part of February, in a dairy which were expected to calve from March 1st, to the middle of April. We found the following system of management in practice :

The cows were confined by stanchions, in cold, wet and badly managed stables ; they were liber-

ally fed on hay alone; it being mainly of a fine growth of timothy, red top, blue grass and green grass, with a goodly mixture of Canada thistle, all well cured. The altitude of the site of the farm, was about 1,200 feet above tide, and on the shore of a lake, near which were copious springs, which never freeze, where the cows were allowed to go once in twenty-four hours to drink. The springs were near a fourth of a mile from the stables, and over one hundred feet below them. The snow was deep, and it snowed for five consecutive days whilst we were in that neighborhood; the mercury ranging from 3° to 18° above zero, during that period. It mattered not how severe the storm, or how cold, the cows all went once per diem to the springs. We witnessed the operation and effect of this system of watering, when the mercury stood at 8° above.

The cows drank until their stomachs were so distended, that it was with difficulty that they could climb the steep, back to the stable.

The violent exercise of ascending the hill seemed, however, to be an advantage, as it worried the blood, and restored the temperature lost by the excessive draught of cold water.

MILK DISEASE.

We find in a contribution to the "*Scientific American*," a statement that in certain parts of East Tennessee, near Copper Mines, there prevails a disease among the cattle, called milk disease; it is said only to affect cows that have fed in dark, shady places in the mountains, where the sun seldom shines. An explanation of the disease is solicited, without giving any of the symptoms. It may arise from drinking poisonous water. Herbage grown in shade, or on wet undrained land, often effects milk injuriously, and may produce disease. More evidence of the importance of sunlight.

The American Newspaper Advertising Agency of Geo. P. Rowell & Co., New York, keeps itself persistently before the people by advertising in newspapers. They evidently receive their reward, for we have it from a reliable source that advertising orders issued by them for their customers have exceeded three thousand dollars a day since the commencement of the year, and this is not a very good year for advertising either.

The attention of parties wanting Cane Seed is called to the advertisement of the BLYMYER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, in another column.

THE CULTIVATOR AND COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, although in its 45th year, has all the freshness of youth in its appearance, and the vigor and stamens of mature manhood in the matter of its columns. Luther Tucker & Sons, editors, Albany, New York—\$2.50.

Patrons of Husbandry.

Granges in Virginia and Maryland.

On Wednesday, the 17th February, thirty-five Virginia and two Maryland Granges, represented by about hundred and twenty delegates, convened in Peabody Hall, Alexandria, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Col. S. S. Bradford, of Culpeper, was called to the chair, who called the meeting to order in an appropriate speech.

On motion, A. J. Wedderburn, of Alexandria, was appointed secretary, and Capt. C. B. Randolph, of Fauquier, assistant secretary.

Upon roll-call of delegates all fourth degree Grangers were invited to seats in the body.

The committee on permanent organization reported for Master, S. S. Bradford, of Culpeper; Overseer, John M. Meade, of Frederick; Lecturer, A. M. Moore, of Clarke; Steward, George W. Metz, of Fauquier; Assistant Secretary, W. N. Green, of Orange; Chaplain, James L. Stringfellow, of Culpeper; Secretary, A. J. Wedderburn, of Alexandria, Va.; Treasurer, W. R. Snow, of Prince William; gate-keeper, James M. Benton, of Loudon.

Appropriate lady officers were elected.

Mr. Bradford, on assuming the Master's chair, returned thanks to the Grange for the compliment in a short and happy speech.

Mr. Featherstone then gave some account of the meeting of the National Grange in Charleston, from which he had just returned.

The Grange requested Col. D. S. Curtiss, the founder of the Order in Virginia, to address them, which he did in a short but appropriate speech.

On motion, a vote of thanks was passed for his address. It was ordered to be printed in the *Virginia Fireside*, and was published in the *Virginia Sentinel*.

The Grange at 2:30 took a recess until 4 o'clock. After dinner and recess, the Grange reassembled, and proceeded to adopt a constitution and rules.

Other Granges of Maryland and Virginia are allowed to join this District Grange, on the payment of the regular fee of \$5. UNION.

PLATFORM OF NEW YORK PATRONS.—At the late meeting of the State Grange, a platform was adopted, embodying the following principles; Associated efforts among farmers, for social and financial improvement is necessary; corporations should be subject to governmental control; opposition to unfair discrimination by railroads against any class or locality; favoring a system of assessments that will reach all property, excepting none; opposition to "short" or "long" selling in large markets; against extension of patents; favoring the reduction of emoluments of office holders, and giving them salaries instead of fees; and lastly, expressing a belief that examination of prison and almshouse statistics will show that most of the crime and pauperism result from "intemperance."

We have received a number of solid county news papers from the "California Immigrant Union," all containing accounts of the doings of the Grangers in California. They are evidently in earnest, and seem to be prudent in their doings.

LADIES DEPARTMENT.

A Chat with the Ladies for MARCH.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"The stormy March is come at last
 With wind and cloud and changing skies :
 I hear the rushing of the blast
 That through the snowy valley flies.
 Oh! passing few are those who speak,
 Wild stormy month, in praise of thee!"

This opening month of Spring, it is to be hoped, will bring alleviation to the general suffering endured by the poor during the past bitter, dark and dangerous six years. Dangerous because so slippery, few could keep their *slippers*, and when the heels flew upward the head went downward, and many have been the contusions and painful accidents. But it was the cold and hunger that little children suffered, which makes the year memorable. Nobly have our ladies, especially those with whom I hold these pleasant chats, responded to the loud appeal for charity and Christian help. Thank God spring has come! and though old March is boisterous he sometimes is mild and genial, and I trust this year he brings, sunshine and mildness, with renewed activity in business, so that the poor laborers can get employment, which will give the wherewithal to procure clothing and food for their children.

Ladies, a British poet says, about this season of the year—

"Now careful gardeners during sunny days
 Admit to greenhouses the genial rays :
 Vines, espaliers and standard trees demand
 The pruner's skillful eye and steady hand ;
 And numerous shoots and roots court the kind toil
 Of transplanting, on another soil."

You can now have your flower beds put in order to some extent, such as trimming the shrubbery, cutting off the rose bushes, or pruning them; preparing and refixing trellises, making walks and setting out edgings for borders, &c. This is the time to sow hardy annual flower seeds in the open border and the tender sorts in a box or pots in the house.

Be sure and make a list of all seeds you may want and order them and such plants as you desire, so that you will have them in time. Plants coming from a warm propagating house require to be hardened, by exposure gradually to the cold before being set out in the open ground. If necessary to plant out at once, then mulch heavily, and if the weather turns very cold protect them with straw, old matting or carpets.

Among the seeds you sow let me urge you to have a full supply of the new varieties of *Phlox Drummondii Grandiflora*. The flowers are large, and brilliant in colors, the *Splendens* especially so. The double Petunias are beautiful and becoming very fashionable. The new *Pizze Taker Mignonne* is very desirable, for it excels all other varieties of this old and popular flower, in beauty of color and size of flowers. I would also recommend for trial the new *Amaranthus Henderi*, and the *Salvia Candidissima*, a noble plant, large silvery leaves, covered with down like snow. Be sure and sow early, some varieties of the ornamental grasses; they are ornamental in summer and so useful and beautiful in winter bouquets, or simply placed in vases on the centre table, or on brackets, as parlor adornments.

The Dairy and the Henery will now command attention. Permit me to suggest that each will require unremitting and regular attention at least two or three times a day if satisfactory results are expected. Let me urge you to procure a good practical treatise on Poultry and select good birds of such breeds as you may select after reading all about their several qualifications and merits. Wright's Illustrated Poultry Book is the best, and though costly, it is useful and an elegant book for the parlor. There are other very low priced yet valuable. The study of the writings of practical Dairymen and Poultiers is of the highest importance to success in either of these departments. Both pleasure and profit are found in each, if pursued with energy and skill, the latter can only be obtained by enlightened experience.

ABOUT ONE'S SELF.

The object of brushing the teeth is to remove the destructive particles of food which by their decomposition generate decay. To neutralize the acid resulting from this chemical change is the object of dentifrice. A stiff brush should be used after every meal, and a thread of silk floss or india rubber passed through between the teeth to remove particles of food. Rinsing the mouth in lime water neutralizes the acid.

Living and sleeping in a room in which the sun never enters is a slow form of suicide. A sun bath is the most refreshing and life-giving bath that can possibly be taken.

Always keep the feet warm, and thus avoid colds. To this end, never sit in damp shoes or wear foot coverings fitting and pressing closely.

The best time to eat fruit is half an hour before breakfast.

A full bath should not be taken less than three hours after a meal. Never drink cold water before bathing. Do not take a cold bath when tired.

Keep a box of powdered starch on the washstand; and after washing, rub a pinch over the hands. It will prevent chapping.

If feeling cold before going to bed, exercise; do not roast over a fire.

How to Grow Corn.—At a late meeting of the Solebury, Pa., Farmers' Club, in answer to a question, it was stated that if it were possible to grow one hundred bushels of corn per acre in Bucks County, the corn would have to be planted in rows four feet apart, and hills one foot apart in the row; one kernel to the hill. Most of the members doubted whether this amount could be well grown on an acre, even in the method given.

SULPHUR FOR FOWLS.—Two dessert spoonfuls of pulverized sulphur, mixed with soft food and given to fowls two or three times a month, is highly commended by some poultry breeders as promotive of good health and freedom from vermin.

Catalogues, &c. Received.

We must head the list with that exquisite work of art, in its way, the January number of Briggs & Brother's Quarterly Rural Work for 1875—Rochester, N. Y., and Chicago, Ill. It is profusely illustrated with life-like representations of the choicest flora of every variety, some colored to nature. It is worthy of a place on the centre table of every library.

From Dingee & Conard Company, Rose Growers, of West Grove, Chester Co., Pa. They offer a splendid assortment at moderate prices.

From Crosmans Bros, Rochester, New York, their Illustrated catalogue and Guide to the Flower and Vegetable Garden.

From John Saul, Washington, D. C., Nurseryman, Seedsman, Florist and Importer, his standard catalogue.

From the well known house of Hovey & Co., Boston, their Illustrated Guide and Seed Catalogue.

From A. H. Hewes & Co., North Cambridge, Mass., their Wholesale Price List and Illustrated Catalogue of Earthen Ware, hand and machine made—Flower Pots and Saucers, plain and fancy, and a great variety of garden decorations.

From John C. Durborow, Light street, Baltimore, his Illustrated Catalogue of Implements, Seeds, &c.

From E. C. Mead, Keswick, Va., his catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seeds, Small Fruits, &c.

From William Bryce & Co., Glasgow, Scotland, their Price Current of Agricultural and Vegetable Seeds.

From F. K. Phoenix, Bloomington, Ill., his wholesale price list of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Small Fruits, Greenhouse and bedding Plants &c.

From A. Hance & Son, Red Bank, N. J., his spring Catalogue No. 3.

From R. H. Allen & Co., New York, their seed catalogue for 1875.

From T. C. Maxwell & Bros, Geneva, N. Y., descriptive catalogue of Clematis.

From E. Y. Teas & Co., Richmond, Ind., their catalogue for 1875.

From C. A. Reeser & Co., Erie, Pa., Illustrated Catalogue of new Plants.

From Vilmorin-Andréleux & Co., Paris, France, Price-List of Gladiolus Roots, Hybrids of Gaudianensis.

From F. W. Hilmick, Cincinnati, O., New Song, Member deeds of Kindness.

THE RURAL SOUTHERNER AND PLANTATION comes to us enlarged and greatly improved. It now combines the "Plantation," "Rural Southerner," and "Wilson's Herald of Health,"—published at Atlanta, Georgia, at \$1 a year. The January number alone is worth many times the cost of a year's subscription—No farmer in the South should fail to read the article in this No. by Col. J. H. Dent.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

J. J. Turner & Co., "Excelsior" and Bone Dust.
J. J. Turner & Co., Ammoniated Bone Superphosphate.

C. A. Reeser & Co., Plants for Winter flowering.
N. E. Berry, Prolific Seed Corn.

Blymyer Manufacturing Co., Pure Cane Seed.
Thomas Meehan, Germantown Nurseries.
Rev. E. A. Colburn, Holy Trinity School,
Chas. Simon & Sons, Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods.

Jas. J. H. Gregory, Choice new Vegetables.
D. M. Ferry & Co., Seed Annual.
H. D. Smith, Tomatoes.

P. E. Keller, Alderman bull calf or pigs for sale.
Jno. Reed, Azotin.
D. Landreth & Sons, Landreth's warranted seeds.

G. & C. Merriam, Webster's Dictionary.
Baugh & Sons, Standard manures.
L. W. Gosnell, Yellow Corn.

H. J. Kent & Co., Potato Planter.
Bacon & Spinning, Riverside Station, Fairfax Co., Conn., Poultry Yard.

BALTIMORE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND PRICE-CURRENT.—We have received from the enterprising publishers of this old and reliable Journal, a photo-lithograph of a January number, which is reduced to a very diminutive size, and every line legible to ordinary eyes. The Journal of Commerce is edited and published by Geo. U. Porter and Wm. T. Hamilton, Esqs., office, Merchant's Exchange and News Rooms. Subscription price, \$5 a year—advertising \$25 an inch, yearly.

E. WHITMAN & SONS' CATALOGUE OF SEEDS, FERTILIZERS AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS FOR 1875.—This Catalogue contains 200 pages very profusely illustrated, and gives full descriptions of Seeds, Fertilizers and implements, besides a great deal of valuable matter relating to Agriculture. It is well arranged, neatly printed, and is altogether the most instructive and elegant book, ever sent out by an Agricultural Implement House in this country.

BOQUETTES.—We acknowledge the receipt of a rare and beautiful hand Boquette, from our friend John Feast, Florist, Lexington Street, Baltimore. It was a sight to see.

Also a dish of Flora's choicest offerings, from Andrew L. Black, Belvidere Nurseries, Baltimore. *We like Flowers—so does the Governess.*

LIST OF PATENTS

ISSUED by the United States Patent Office, to citizens of the State of Maryland, for the month ending February 15th, 1875.

Prepared expressly for the "Maryland Farmer" by LOUIS BAGGER & Co., Solicitors of Patents, Washington, D. C., from whom complete copies of the Patents and Drawings may be obtained.

No. 158, 511—Carpet Sweepers; patented by G. S. Norris, of Baltimore.

No. 158, 579—Rotary Engines; patented by J. S. Fairfax, of Baltimore.

No. 158, 678—Car Wheels; patented by Wm. J. Cochran, of Baltimore.

No. 158, 689—Iron Columns; patented by Garret B. Davids, of Baltimore; assignor to himself and T. Denmead, same place.

No. 158, 697—Rotary Engines; patented by Ernest Frank of Baltimore.

No. 158, 698—Clearers for Drawing Rolls; patented by Genl. F. Gambrill and James L. Sheridan, of Baltimore.

No. 158, 730—Fire Escape Ladders; patented by Abraham Oberndorf, Jr., and Ernest Frank of Baltimore.

No. 158, 856—Insulators for Musical Instruments; patented by Wm. R. Miller of Baltimore.

No. 158, 939—Devices for forming Shoe Sole Tips; patented by John Joseph Henry of Baltimore.

No. 159, 055—Cooling Dairies; patented by J. Wilkinson of Baltimore.

RE-ISSUE:—No. 6, 221—Slate Frames; patented by Sam'l. B. Bushell of Baltimore; pat. No. 99, 811, dated Feb. 15th, 1870.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

THE "Seed Annual" of D. M. FERRY & Co., Detroit, Mich., is advertised in our columns. This house ranks high in their trade, and our readers can rely on the Seeds they procure from their house. Write to them and get the "Annual" FREE.

J. B. Stickle advertises Eggs for Hatching, of the various breeds.

J. W. Kerr, Denton, Md., offers a large assortment of Nursery stock. Send for spring Price List.

BALTIMORE MARKETS--March 3.

Prepared for the "Maryland Farmer" by GILLMORE & ROGERS, Produce Commission Merchants, 159 W. Pratt st.

[Unless when otherwise specified the prices are wholesale.]

ASHES.—Pots quiet at \$6.00@\$6.25.

BEESWAX.—Firm; 30@30 cts.

BROOM CORN.—Dull at 10@13 cts.

COFFEE.—Prices range from 17@19 cts. for ordinary to choice, gold duty paid.

COTTON.—Market active—Ordinary, 14½ cts.; Good Ordinary 14¾ cts.; Low Middling, 15½ cts.; Middling, 15¾ cts.; Good Middling, 16 cts.; Middling Fair, 16¾ cts.

EGGS.—Fresh lots—Md. and Pa., 30@31 cts.

FERTILIZERS.—No change to note. We quote:

Peruvian Guano.....	\$36	Y ton	at \$900 b.
Turner's Excelsior.....	55	Y ton	"
Turner's Ammo. S. Phos.....	45	Y ton	"
E. F. Cos' Ammo. S. Phos.....	55	Y ton	"
Soluble Pacific Guano.....	50	Y ton	"
Rasin & Co. Soluble Sea Island Guano	50	Y ton	"
Rasin & Co., Ground Bone and Meat.....	"	"	"
Rasin & Co., Ammonia, Potash and Bone Phosphate of Lime.....	"	"	"
Flour of Bone.....	60	Y ton	"
John Bullock & Sons Pure G'd Bone.....	45	Y ton	"
Whitman's phosphate.....	50	Y ton	"
Bone Dust.....	45	Y ton	"
Horner's Maryland Super Phos.....	50	Y ton	"
Horner's Bone Dust.....	45	Y ton	"
Dissolved Bones.....	60	Y ton	"
Missouri Bone Meal.....	47	Y ton	"
New Jersey Ground Bone.....	40	Y ton	"
Marc Phillips' Super-Phosphate Lime	50	Y ton	"
"A" Mexican Guano.....	30	Y ton	"
"A" do.....	30	Y ton	"
Plaster.....	\$1.75	Y bbl.	

FRUITS DRIED.—Cherries, 25@26 cents; Blackberries, 9@9½ cts.; Whortleberries, 16 cts; Raspberries, 23@30 cts; Peaches, peeled, bright, 20@25 cts; Peaches, unpeeled, halves, 8@9 cts; Peaches, unpeeled, quarters, 6@7 cts; Apples, sliced, bright, 9@12 cts; Apples, quarters, bright, 7@7½ cts.

FLOUR.—Market Active—Super \$4.25@4.50; Extra 4 7/5 @5.25; Western Family 5.37@6.25; Choice family, \$8.00@\$8.25.

GRAIN—Wheat—Quiet, fair to choice, white, 1.10@1.30; fair to choice, red, 1.10@1.20. Corn—Southern white, 80 82@—Yellow do 79@80—Western mixed 79@80 cts. Oats—65@70 cts.

HAY AND STRAW.—Timothy Hay, dull, at \$18@\$21 per ton; Rye Straw \$13@14; Oat Straw 12@14; Wheat Straw \$10.00@12.00.

HIDES.—Green 9@10 cts.; Dry salted 13@14 cts.; Dry Flint 15@18 cents.

PROVISIONS.—Bacon Shoulders, 8½ cts.; Clear Rib Sides, 11½@11½ cts.; S. C. Hams, 14@16cts.

POTATOES.—Early Rose \$3.25 per Barrel.

RICE.—Carolina and Louisiana, 7@7½ cts.

SALT.—Ground Alum \$1.05@1.15; Fine \$1.95@2.10 per sack; Turks Island 30@32 cts. per bushel.

WHISKEY.—\$1.00 per gallon.

JOB PRINTING

Of every variety, executed at the Office of "The Maryland Farmer."

3

TREES, Etc.

We offer for SPRING, 1875, an unusually

LARGE STOCK OF WELL GROWN, THRIFTY

Standard and Dwarf Fruit Trees.

Grape-Vines, Small Fruits.

Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses.

New and Rare Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

Evergreens and Bulbous Roots.

New and Rare Green and Hot-House Plants.

Small parcels forwarded by mail when desired.

Prompt attention given to all enquiries.

Descriptive and Illustrated priced Catalogues sent prepaid, on receipt of stamps, as follows:

No. 1—Fruits, 10c. No. 2—Ornamental Trees, 10c.

No. 3—Greenhouse, 10c. No. 4—Wholesale, Free.

Address, ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Estab'd 1840.

fe-3t Mount Hope Nurseries, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

CHOICE NEW VEGETABLES.

Batman Squash; dry, fine grained, first-rate; this is the only squash known to have originated in the United States. (25 cts per package.) Tally's New Cucumber; this combines in itself the best qualities of the White Spine and English Frame, being extra large, very handsome and remarkably prolific; 25 cts. per package. Russian Netted Cucumber very early, skin of a bronze color and thickly netted; as excellent as it is singular. Pratt's Early Sweet Corn; the earliest of all varieties of market size. New German Watermelon; earlier than any other variety by a fortnight. Carter's Premium Gem Pea; very early, very dwarf, very prolific, decidedly superior to "Little Gem." New Queen Onion; a white variety; the earliest onion grown. Mammoth Leibon Chili Squash; has been grown to weigh 250 pounds. Bean Pea; is superior to common pea bean, being as round as a shot and very prolific. Henson Lettuce; this is the largest of all lettuce, making heads the size of early cabbage. Marblehead Pole Bean; the earliest pole bean yet known, pods very long and tender. ~~45~~ Packages of each of the above sent at Fifteen Cents each. Bonnet Guard: 20 cts. per package. Eastman's Early Blood Turnip Beet: for market gardeners and all others this is the early beet; package 19 cts. My Illustrated Catalogue of Vegetable and Flower Seed, containing almost an endless variety, sent free to any address.

JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass.
mar-it

Small Fruit for Spring Planting.

STRAWBERRIES, RASPBERRIES,

BLACKBERRIES, Currants,

GOOSEBERRIES, GRAPEVINES,

AND ASPARAGUS ROOTS:

Also, Dahlias, Gladiolus, Tuberoses, &c.

Send for a Price List. Address

fe-3t J. COOK, Carroll P. O., Baltimore Co.



FLOWER POTS,

STONE,

AND

EARTHENWARE.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF EACH.

M. PERINE & SONS, Manufacturers,

711 and 713 W. BALTIMORE STREET.

Send for Price List.

Feby

J. C. HIGGINS, DARK BRAHMAS EXCLUSIVELY.

I have now arranged my breeding Flocks for the season of 1875—twelve in number.

They are all made up from my own prize winning strains.

Although my success in handling this variety has been wonderful during the past, I am better prepared than ever before, to supply stock from pure Steel Grey strains.

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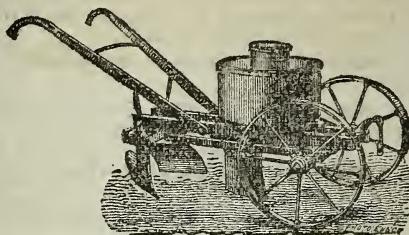
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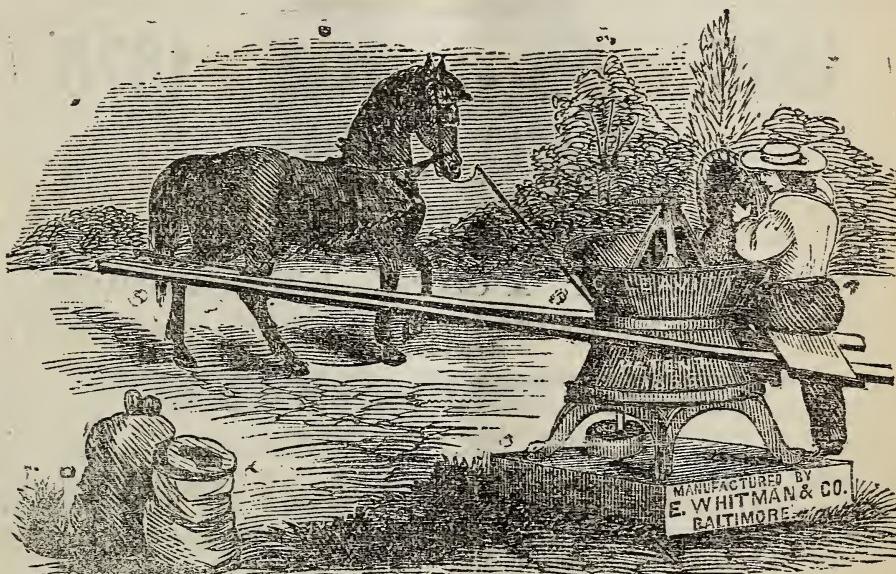
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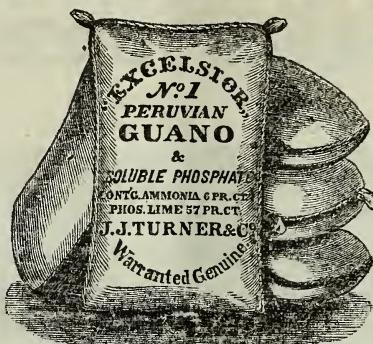
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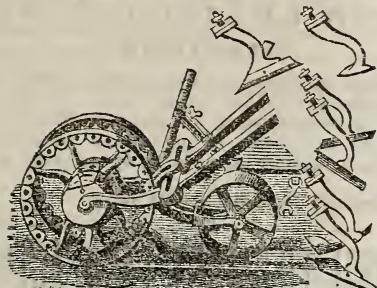
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These excellent tools are of the newest and most improved construction, combining all the good points of the original "Planets" with new and valuable features, and they are simple, artistic, compact and strong, working well on all soils.

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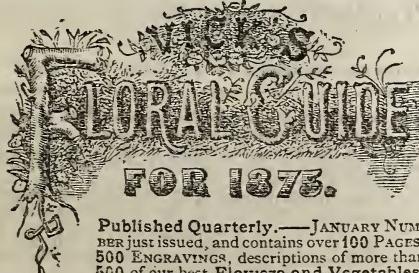
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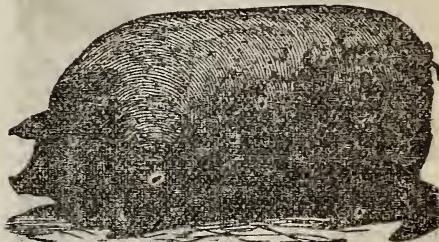
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SPREADING BARN-YARD MANURES;

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But now I have invented, and here offer them, a new and useful implement, which will rapidly and easily unload and spread the manure equally over the land, as fast as the team walks and draws the wagon across the field; while the teamster has nothing to do but sit on the box and drive the team, and with a saving of more than half the labor; as it is well known that the greatest part of the labor is in unloading and spreading, the manure in the old way.

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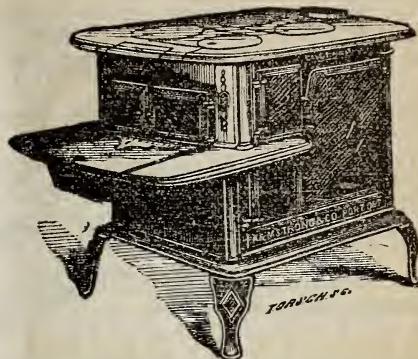
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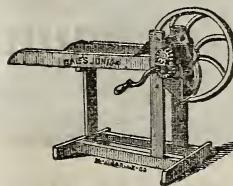
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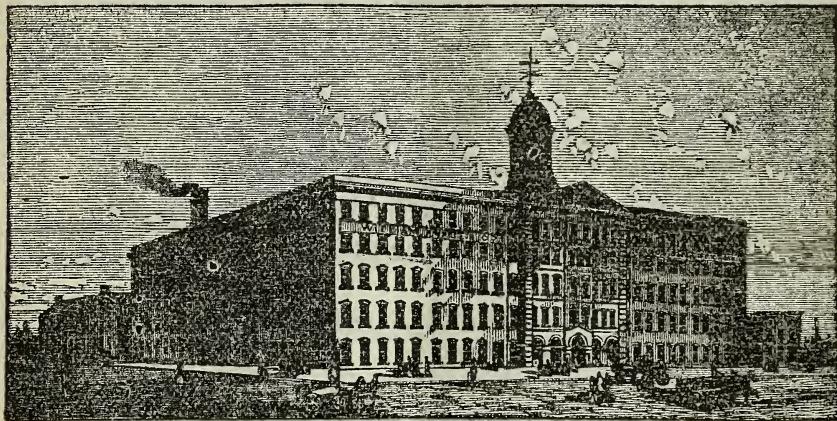
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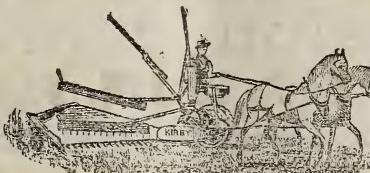
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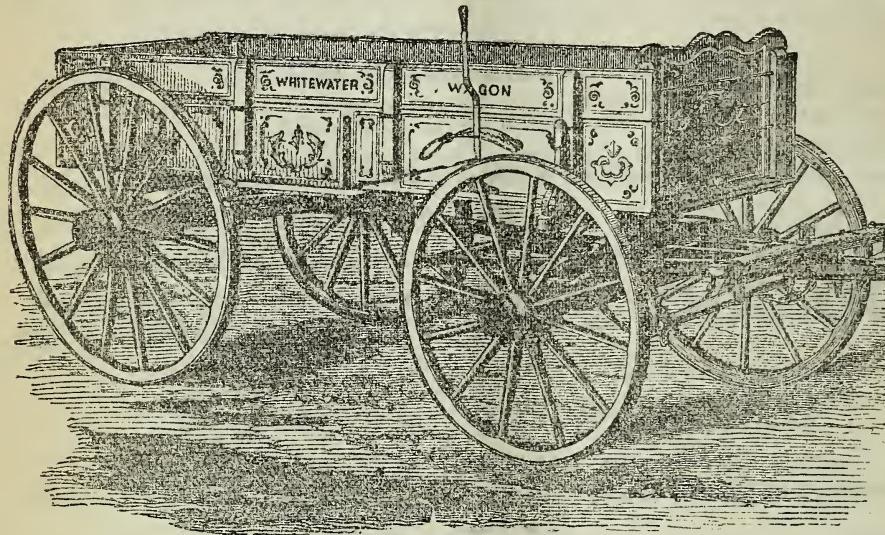
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The above are complete with whiffletrees, neck yoke, bed and top box, stay chains, &c.

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2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " 4 " " " "	170 00—7000 lbs.

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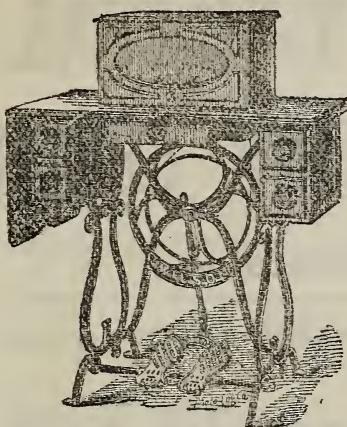
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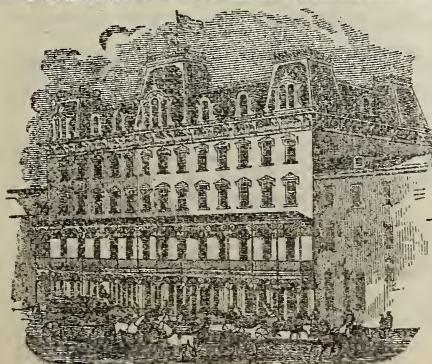
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\$2.50 per day.

There is attached to the Hotel the most Elegant and exten-
sive RESTAURANT in the city, thereby enabling persons to
engage Rooms and live on the European plan, if so desired,
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Garden and Field Seeds.

THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF

FRESH AND GENUINE SEEDS

Ever offered in Baltimore.

EMBRACING ALL THE NEWEST AND MOST APPROVED VARIETIES OF THIS COUNTRY
AND OF EUROPE.

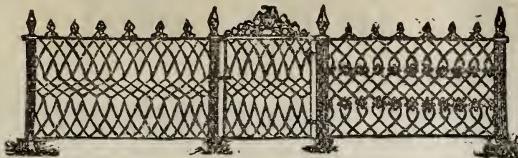
WE HAVE LAID IN AN UNUSUALLY LARGE STOCK OF GARDEN SEEDS,
AND ALSO OFFER AN ASSORTMENT NEVER EQUALLED IN
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Seed Potatoes,	Millet,
Clover,	White Clover,
Timothy,	Alsike Clover,
Orchard Grass,	Lucerne,
Rye Grass,	Hungarian Grass,
Kentucky Blue Gass,	Herds Grass,
Seed Oats,	Wheat,
Corn, Rye,	Buckwheat,
&c., &c., &c.	

*Prices as Low as those of any other First-Class
Seed House.*

E. WHITMAN & SONS,
BALTIMORE, MD.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.



WIRE RAILING
AND
ORNAMENTAL WIRE WORKS.

DUFUR & CO.

No. 36 North Howard Street, Baltimore, Md.
MANUFACTURE

Wire Railing for Cemeteries, Balconies, &c.

SIEVES, FENDERS, CAGES, SAND & COAL SCREENS, WOVEN WIRE, &c.
novly Also, Iron Bedsteads, Chairs, Settees, &c., &c.

A. E. WARNER,

ESTABLISHED 1811.

MANUFACTURER OF

Fine Silverware and Rich Jewelry,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

WATCHES, DIAMONDS & NEW BRONZES,

TREBLE SILVER-PLATED WARE OF NEW DESIGNS,
TABLE CUTLERY, &c., &c.

Our Silverware, made on the premises, and of the Finest Standard Silver, all of which we offer
at the lowest prices, at

Dec-ly No. 135 W. Baltimore St., near Calvert St., Baltimore.

GEO. J. STORCK.

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MONUMENTAL WOOD WORKS.

A. STORCK & SONS,

No. 77 E. Monument St. and 259 N. Front Street,

NEAR BELAIR MARKET,

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DEALERS IN LUMBER.

WHITE PINE, of all sizes and qualities.

Weather-boarding, Partition Laths, Palings, Fencing, Shingles, &c.

YELLOW PINE Joists, Scantling and Floorings, on hand and made to order.

All kinds of Scroll and Ornamental Work—such as, Brackets, Barge Boarding, Finials, Arbor Sweeps, Mouldings, Newel's Bannisters, Balustrades, Bed-posts, Table Legs, Ten Pins and Balls, &c.

Particular attention given to getting out and working Hand Rails ready to put up to suit any style of stairway, for the Country Trade.

HUBS of all sizes and kinds a SPECIALTY.

In offering the above articles we likewise desire to inform our friends in the country that we always BUY OR TAKE IN EXCHANGE for the same, Cedar, Locust and Chesnut Posts; Black Gum, White Oak and Locust Timber for Hubs; and large White Oak Logs for Meat Blocks.

May-ly

PASSAIC AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL WORKS,
NEWARK, N. J.

159 FRONT STREET, NEW YORK.

Notice to Cotton, Wheat and Tobacco Planters.

Twenty-four years trial in America and England—we offer you

LISTER'S STANDARD FERTILIZERS,

Not to be excelled by any Manufacturers.

Lister's Standard Bone Superphosphate of Lime,
Guaranteed to be Cheaper than the best Phosphate in the market,
and up to the analysis represented.

Lister's Celebrated Bone Dust—Bone Meal—and
Bone Flour.

SAMUEL TOWNSEND & SON,
L. KELLUM & CO.
E. WHITMAN & SONS,

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EDWD. J. EVANS & CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

NURSERYMEN AND SEEDSMEN,
YORK, PENNA.

A complete assortment of Standard and Dwarf FRUIT TREES, SHADE and ORNAMENTAL TREES, EVERGREENS, Hardy Ornamental and Climbing SHRUBS, GRAPES, SMALL FRUITS, HEDGE PLANTS, &c.

Garden and Flower Seeds, Grass Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Seed Corn, Oats, Wheat, Hedge Seeds, &c., and HORTICULTURAL GOODS of all kinds.

Descriptive Catalogues and price lists mailed to applicants.

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SMITH, BIXON & CO.,
Commission Paper Warehouse

MANUFACTURERS OF

PAPER AND MACHINE MADE
PAPER BAGS,

33 South Charles Street.

BALTIMORE, MD.

only

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

R. SINCLAIR & CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY,
ALSO, GROWERS AND IMPORTERS OF
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS,
Dealers in Fruit Trees and Plants.

Would call the special attention of our friends and customers, to the following first-class Machinery and Implements, which we guarantee to be equal to any article of the kind made in this Country, being all of our own Manufacture.

We name in part, such Machines as are required by the Farmer and Planter for the Winter and Spring Seasons, viz : **SINCLAIR'S PATENT MASTICATOR**, of which we make four sizes, viz : Hand, Steam and Horse Power.

Sinclair's Patent Screw Propeller Hay Straw & Fodder Cutters, of which we make four sizes, viz : Light Hand Power, Hand Power, several sizes, and Horse Power three sizes. All of the above-named Cutters are our own Patents and Manufacture, and are such as we can recommend.

Reading's Patent Horse-Power Corn Sheller, with Fan Attachment.

Sheller, plain.

Double Spout Hand or Power Sheller. Single Spout Shellers—all kinds. Corn and Cob Mills, Grist Mills, for Farm and Plantation use. WHEAT AND CORN FANNING MILLS.

"Anderson's" Agricultural Steamer, for preparing feed for Stock. The best in use. Threshers and Separators—different kinds and sizes.

Horse Powers, all sizes and patterns.

Ox Yokes and Bows, Horse Power Road Scrapers, Hay and Straw Presses. Plows, different kinds and sizes, Harrows, Cultivators, and all kinds of Farming and Horticultural Tools. Address,

R. SINCLAIR & CO.

62 Light Street, Baltimore, Md.

NOAH WALKER & CO.

THE

CELEBRATED CLOTHIERS,

OF BALTIMORE, MD.

Announce the introduction of a plan of ordering

CLOTHING AND UNDERWEAR BY LETTER,

To which they call your special attention. They will send on application their improved and accurate RULES FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT, and a full line of samples from their immense stock of

Cloths, Cassimeres, Coatings, Shirtings &c., &c.

A large and well-assorted stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING always on hand, together with a full line of FURNISHING GOODS.

NOAH WALKER & CO.

Manufacturers and Dealers in Men's and Boys' Clothing and Furnishing Goods, either Ready-Made or Made to Order.

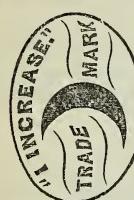
Nos. 165 & 167 W. BALTIMORE ST.,
Baltimore, Md.

R. Q. TAYLOR,
OPPOSITE BARNUM'S HOTEL, Baltimore,
IMPORTER,
HATS, FURS, UMBRELLAS.

W.M. W. PRETMAN.

(s-ly)

G. E. S. LANSDOWNE,



May 1

BONE MANURES.

Guaranteed Uniform
in Quality and Condition.
Reliable for all Soils,
Crops and Climates.
Send for Circular.
J. RALSTON & CO.
170 Front St., N. Y.



I also offer to beat with said Brown Leghorns any other breed of fowls in the world—laying eggs, or for early poultry. They are non-sitters. Have taken 1st and special premiums at all the exhibitions I have attended this season. Am breeding from three 1st premium Cocks and Cockerels, and several 2d and 3d premiums. Have sold no PREMIUM birds.

I MAKE A SPECIALTY OF

STRAWBERRIES, GRAPES & CURRANTS,

and have several acres under cultivation—have taken first premiums at the Worcester County Horticultural Society's annual exhibition, for largest and best collections Strawberries, five years in succession, and have sold Strawberries grown out of doors at a higher price per quart than any other man in the State. I also offer a limited number of Plants of my new seedling Strawberry, Kinney's No. 10. I have tested the No. 10 thoroughly, fruiting one acre the past season, and shall set 5 acres for next season. It is by far the most profitable Market Strawberry I am acquainted with. Is a seedling of Wilson crossed on Jucunda. Is a better berry in every respect than the Wilson, and nearly two weeks later. Is just what we have all been watching for. It does remarkably well in all soils where it has been tried. As hardy as Wilson, is stronger in growth, and as productive.

I shall sell a limited number of plants in the spring of 1875, at \$3 per dozen, \$20 per hundred, and \$100 per thousand.

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FARMERS, DAIRYMEN, STOCK

and POULTRY BREEDERS, FISH CULTURISTS, APIARISTS, or any person that keeps even a HORSE, a COW, or POULTRY, or is interested in the advancement and improvement in AGRICULTURE, whether he lives in CITY, TOWN, or COUNTRY, before subscribing for any other publication, should examine the

LIVE STOCK JOURNAL

Pronounced the most ABLE, VERSATILE and READABLE Journal of its class. Beautifully Printed and Illustrated. National, giving equal attention to the Stock Interests of every State. Edited in separate departments. Monthly, 150 per year. 6th Volume begins January, 1875. Pays canvassers best. Agents wanted everywhere. Specimen copy, 10 cents.

Address, LIVE STOCK JOURNAL CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.

Dec 31

E. J. KINNEY,

BREEDER OF

BROWN LEGHORN FOWLS,

ORIGINATOR AND BREEDER OF

WORCESTER COUNTY FOWLS.

Eggs for Hatching and Fowls for Sale
AT FAIR PRICES.

P. O. Address, Olean Street,

WORCESTER, MASS.

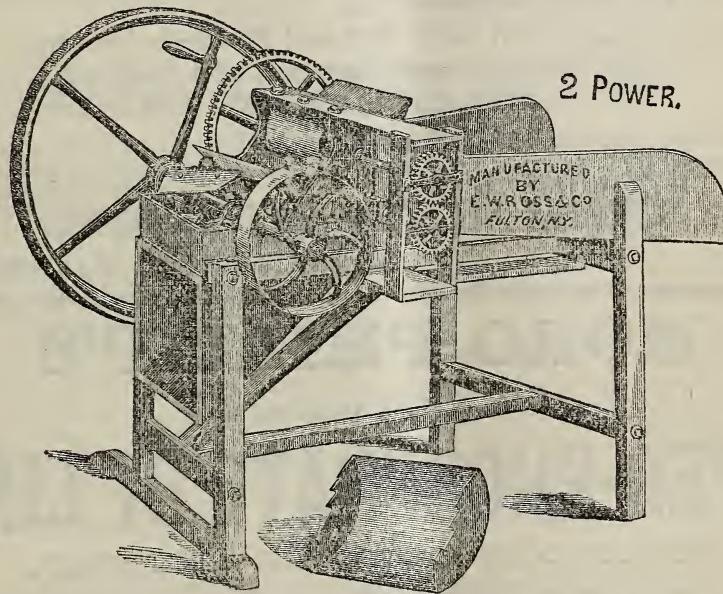
[YARDS AT TATNUCK.]

I claim to have bred Brown Leghorn Fowls as long as any person in America, and to have the LARGEST WHITE EAR-LOBE STOCK there is now in the world. Am breeding them at Buffalo, N. Y., for my western trade, and at several other places beside Home Yards. Have over 2000 Thorough Bred Chicks.

THE CUMING'S IMPROVED FEED CUTTER.

The Only Perfect Machines

FOR CUTTING HAY, STRAW, STALKS,
AND ALL KINDS OF FODDER.



We make Six Sizes, with capacity from 500 lbs. to 3 tons per hour.

The CUMING'S CUTTERS are fifteen years ahead of all other makes. Fifteen years ago they were what other cutters are now, that is, geared cutters. The Cuming's are not geared, receiving the power direct upon the knives:

The No. 1 has three knives, all other sizes four.

The machines are made from the choicest material and perfectly finished, and are well known in the North and West, and can now be had in all the principal cities and towns of Pennsylvania, Maryland and the South. Send for circulars to

E. W. ROSS & CO., Sole Manufacturers,
Fulton, Oswego Co., N. Y.
declly

THOMAS NORRIS & SON,

Manufacturers and Dealers in

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,

Field and Garden Seeds, Fertilizers, &c.

Would call special attention to the following first-class Machines, &c.

Westinghouse Threshers and Cleaners,

Aultman & Taylor's Threshers and Cleaners,

Lever and Railway Horse Powers—most approved.

Van Wickle Wheat Fan. Price \$37.

American Cider Mill and Press—the best—\$40.

Young America Cider Mill and Press—Family use—\$25.

BICKFORD & HUFFMAN GRAIN DRILLS.

Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Straw Cutters, Corn Shellers, and all kinds of Farming Tools. Fresh Field and Garden Seeds, Pure Ground Bone and other Fertilizers.

THOMAS NORRIS & SON,

aug-tf

141 PRATT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

MORO PHILLIP'S

GENUINE IMPROVED

SUPER-PHOSPHATE OF LIME.

STANDARD GUARANTEED.

Reduced in price, and improved in quality by the addition of Potash. This article is already too well known to require any comments upon its Agricultural value. FIFTEEN years experience has fully demonstrated to the agricultural community its lasting qualities on all crops, and the introduction of Potash gives it additional value.

Price \$50 Per Ton, 2000 lbs. Discount to Dealers.

PURE PHUINE

Superior to Peruvian Guano. Discount to Dealers.

Manufactured by MORO PHILLIPS.

Price \$50 Per Ton---2,000 Pounds. Discount to Dealers.

For sale at Manufacturer's Depots : { 110 S. DELAWARE AV., Philadelphia, Pa.
95 SOUTH STREET, Baltimore, Md.

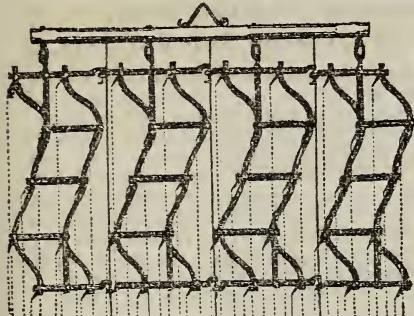
And by Dealers in general throughout the country. Pamphlets mailed free on application.

MORO PHILLIPS,

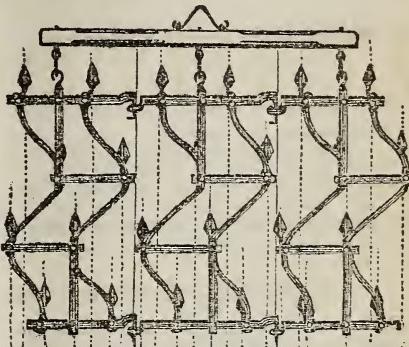
Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer

ap-ly

Nothing Succeeds like Success, based upon
Real Merit.



HARROW.



CULTIVATOR.

COLTON'S

All Iron and Steel

HARROWS & CULTIVATORS

Were never advertised and pushed for sale at distant markets, until five years experience and use among home and near-by buyers had demonstrated them to be beyond question

Pre-eminently Superior in Quality of Work and in Durability.

Within the last three years the demand has wonderfully increased and sales have been made to parties at all points between the Gulf of Mexico and St. Lawrence and the far West. During the past Summer and Fall another factory was erected and a duplicate set of machinery placed therein, the original set having been especially designed for making our implements. Since the first of December both establishments have been running on full time and will turn out during 1875 at least

6,000 All Iron and Steel Harrows and Cultivators,

THE MATERIAL FOR THAT NUMBER BEING ON HAND.

All things fairly considered these implements are the cheapest a farmer or planter can buy and will prove the most satisfactory in freedom from expenses for repairs; *there is not a particle of cast or malleable iron about either*, the material being entirely wrought iron and steel.

During the seven years of manufacture over 25,000 of Colton's All Iron and Steel Harrows and Cultivators have been sold; since the Spring of 1872, over 2,000 have been sold in New York.

This success is absolutely unapproached by any other Harrow and Cultivator on this Continent. Our Harrows have met in practical field trial with every competing implement of any general or even local reputation in Canada and New York AND WERE NEVER YET BEATEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHATEVER AT A PUBLIC FIELD TRIAL; the Cultivator being a newer implement has not had many opportunities of competing practically but in the few instances where tried with others has been victorious each and every time.

[over]

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

COLTON'S HARROWS AND CULTIVATORS.

I am fully convinced that their general introduction would be of vast benefit to the farmers of the State.

Prof. ROBERTS, Cornell, Dec. 22d, 1874.

As pertinent to statements made on preceding page the following are appended.

The Oneonta Manufacturing Company are our agents in Otsego Co., N. Y., but before "taking hold" and making themselves responsible for the worth of a new implement they made an exhaustive test which in part shows WHY our harrow is superior :

Oneonta, Otsego Co., May 6th, 1873.

R. P. COLTON—Dear Sir:—In a trial of your all Iron and Steel Harrow we have proved the following facts to our entire satisfaction.

1st. It will do as much good work in one day as any ordinary harrow will in two days.

2d. On uneven ground it will on account of its self adjusting qualities do better work than can possibly be done by other harrows.

3d. The draft of your Harrow is lighter than most plows used on the same land; tested by a Fairbanks Dynamometer the average draft was 310 lbs.

4th. Its Strength is very great. We drew it 20 rods and back over a sod field thickly imbeded with small and large stones; the harrow loosened all it went over, cleared itself of every one and sustained no damage not even a tooth being bent or loosened

Signed by

D. W. FORD, Sec'y Oneonta M'fg. Co.

E. C. HODGE, Invent, Hodge's Reversible Plow.

O. HOUGHTALING, Farmer, and several others.

The following is specially printed for the benefit of agents and dealers.

Onondaga Hill, N. Y. June, 8th, 1874.

L. W. JOHNSTON,—Dear Sir:—In the Fall of 1873 we took the agency of Colton's All Iron and Steel Harrows and Cultivators, selling about a dozen that season; this Spring we have sold over Six Dozen.

Manufactured and Warranted by R. P. COLTON.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Wholesale Agents at Manufacturers' Lowest Prices, for Maryland and the South.

Among our customers are: Davis Cossitt Esq., Sheriff of this County, John Greenway, Esq., the great Brewer and extensive Farmer, A. B. Avery, Prest. Onondaga Co. Milk Association, G. Spaulding, Esq., E. Makyes, Prest. Farmers Club and Fairs of Geddes, Onondaga and Lafayette Townships, and others equally well known and respected hereabouts. Our farmers talk highly of the merits of both implements, and we have never had any returned when left on trial with promise of being bought if satisfactory and superior in working.

STACKHOUSE & RAYNOR.

Our implements were never known or heard of in the district where the above were sold by Messrs. Stackhouse & Raynor, until they took hold of the business as stated.

PRICES.

The retail prices of Colton's All Iron and Steel Harrows and Cultivators will be as follows:
Harrows in 3 sections, 30 teeth, 6 ft spread, \$22.50
" " 4 " 40 " 8 " " 30.00
" " 5 " 50 " 10 " " 37.50
Cultivators in 3 sections, 24 teeth, 6ft spread, 32.00
Extra Cultivator, sections each, 10.00
" Harrow, " " " 7.00

IN COMPARING COST of "ALL IRON AND STEEL HARROWS" with common wooden ones, REMEMBER that our 3 section harrow, will actually do as much work in a day as the best Scotch frame or 36 toothed square harrow, and the same power required to draw these latter will work our 4 section implement, which is WARRANTED to harrow 15 to 17 acres once over in the ordinary day's work of a man and team, WITH DRAFT NO GREATER than a two-horse plow in same land.

Our Cultivators are cheaper than any others of same width and work, while BOTH IMPLEMENTS ARE ABOVE COMPARISON AS TO DURABILITY; the material in all being entirely wrought iron and steel.